

Hafa Adai!

2 CUC projects are awarded \$5M federal grant. PAGE 3
Woman selling 'ice' at dress shop pleads guilty. PAGE 7

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'PUSONG PINOY'

MACKENZIE PEREZ
The top three candidates pose with the panel of judges during Saturday night's 2017 Miss Teen Pusong Pinoy competition at the Saipan Worl Resort.

See story on Page 4

CHCC: Almost half of CHC's nurses capped out by 2018

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is starting at a potential crisis when the CW1 visas of 47 percent of its nursing workforce expire by 2018. That means that, among nurses alone, 85 of about 180 are expected to exit the CNMI.

IGIA raises health, fiscal concerns with WH

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Justin R. Clark, Deputy Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs; Senior White House adviser Douglas

W. Domenech, and acting assistant secretary of the Interior for Insular Areas Nikolao I. Pula Jr. met last week with Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo, U.S.

CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña said a total of 114 CW1 workers from various areas of the Commonwealth Health Center, Tiniian Health Center, and the Rota Health Center will be "potentially capped out" in November and December of 2017.

The CNMI is only allowed a total of 12,998 CW1 slots this fiscal year.

Virgin Islands Gov. Kenneth Mapp, and American Samoa Gov. Lolo Mologiga at the 2017 Senior Plenary Session.

See IGIA on Page 4

Being "capped out" means there would no longer be any slots for these nurses, which means they will have to leave the CNMI.

See CHCC on Page 4

BOE: 5 investors eyeing GES land

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The prime location of Garapan Elementary School, which sits smack dab in the middle of Saipan's business and tourism center, has not gone unnoticed, with several investors expressing an interest in acquiring it.

In their special board meeting last

See BOE on Page 4

Territories' healthcare face challenges

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Access, financing, and labor are just a few of the major healthcare challenges the U.S. territories face—challenges that force patients, like in the CNMI, to seek medical at-

tention in other countries, thereby increasing costs.

This was the message that Matthew Deleon Guerrero conveyed during the Senior Plenary Session of the Interagency Group on Insular Areas last Friday at the U.S.

See TERRITORIES on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas opens the new Tinian Public Market.

PAGE 13



LOCAL

Feb. 4, "A Day in the Life of a Marine Biologist," was a busy day for Valeri Lapacek.

PAGE 14



LIFE & STYLE

The 89th Academy Awards show promises to be equal parts pomp and politics.

PAGE 17



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Local

IPI, as advised by CCC, requests for extension, sustaining growth

The casino license agreement requires Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC to build the initial gaming facility in Garapan and begin operations by Aug. 11, 2017. Imperial Pacific faced and overcame a great variety of challenges that caused construction delays,

most especially severe damage to construction equipment from Typhoon Soudelor that took several months to repair.

Other challenges that further delayed Imperial Pacific's construction site also included adverse weather conditions, making the tower cranes in-

operable; unstable soil conditions that caused damage to piling that were driven into the ground; lack of readily available skilled laborers; an overabundance of water at the construction site, delaying the pouring of the concrete foundation; lack of necessary con-

struction materials; and the eight months to execute the public lands lease for Garapan.

To further complicate matters, the expiration of the Mariana Resort & Spa's public land lease expires in April 2018 and the deadline to complete the integrated resort in

Marpi is February 2018.

Imperial Pacific has worked closely with the various regulatory government agencies in ensuring compliance with federal and local laws and regulations and the conditions in the various permits needed to construct the initial gam-

ing facility. Imperial Pacific appreciates the guidance and regulatory oversight of these agencies as well as the Commonwealth Casino Commission, most especially vice chair Joseph Reyes' most recent suggestion to extend the temporary casino lease to allow more time to complete construction of the initial gaming facility.

After consultation with regulatory agencies and its subcontractors, Imperial Pacific submitted a request to the Office of the Governor for a six-month extension to operate the temporary casino and an extension to complete construction of the initial gaming facility and integrated resort. The company considers it prudent to make the request for the extension but has not changed its plan to do what it can to enable opening of the casino part of the resort hotel at the earliest date possible.

Imperial Pacific will continue to work with its subcontractors and all government agencies to bring its grand development to the CNMI community at the earliest possible opportunity. (PR)

TOP 5 TIPS TO #ZAPZIKA

1



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make sure it's EPA-registered.

2



Say you will, embrace the chill:
use air conditioning and window screens if possible.

3



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4



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Use a condom to prevent sexual transmission.

5



If you suspect, then connect:
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For details, see entry terms and conditions of the Toyota Dream Car Art Contest.

2 CUC projects are awarded \$5M federal grant

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two Commonwealth Utilities Corp. projects—Tank 103 and the Rota Waste Management Project—have obtained a \$5-million grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Special assistant attorney general Teresita Sablan said the \$5 million was awarded last Thursday. She said she would receive last Friday any update from the Office of Insular Affairs.

Sablan disclosed this new funding when she appeared on behalf of the CNMI government at a hearing last Wednesday in federal court.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David O. Carter said he would speak with Sablan on Saturday, Feb. 25, about this update, along with CUC counsel James Sirok.

The U.S. government did not object.

Tank 103 is a storage tank for fuel at CUC's power plants 1 and 2 in Lower Base. It was shut down due to leaks. Its cleanup and inspection were completed in 2016, but repairs have been deferred for this year.

The Engineering and Environmental Management Company had recommended to the court that capital improvement projects for fiscal year 2017 include Rota facility waste management improvements,

Tank 103 repairs and some secondary work, Power Plants 1 and 2 on Saipan, and EEMC construction management.

Carter recently granted a joint request by CUC and other parties to extend the deadline for the CNMI government to file with the court its notice of authorization to proceed for the \$5 million funding for some CUC projects.

Carter allowed the CNMI government to file its notice of authorization to proceed for the \$5 million funding for stipulated order 2 on or before March 1, 2017.

Pursuant to the court's order, the CNMI must deposit \$5 million into the court's registry or file a notice with the court of the U.S. Department of the Interior's authorization to proceed (ATP) for funding stipulated order 2 projects by Feb. 1, 2017.

The request for extension of deadline was jointly filed by Sirok, U.S. Department of Justice environmental enforcement section senior attorney Bradley R. O'Brien, and Sablan.

The lawyers stated that the U.S., including the Environmental Protection Agency and

the Engineering and Environmental Management Company, have been working to obtain an ATP to devote \$5 million to stipulated order 2 projects.

However, the lawyers said, it has become apparent that despite all efforts of the parties and the EEMC, an ATP will not be issued on or before Feb. 1, 2017.

They said the delay in the ATP is due to the fact that the Office of Insular Affairs is currently on continuing resolution through April 28, 2017, and issues surrounding the approval and completion of the CNMI's single audit.

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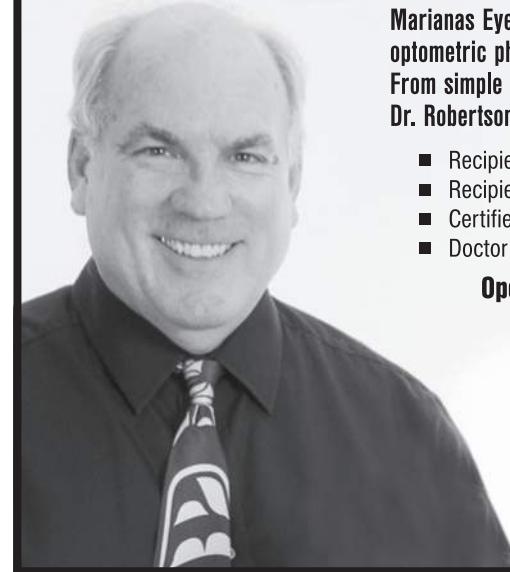
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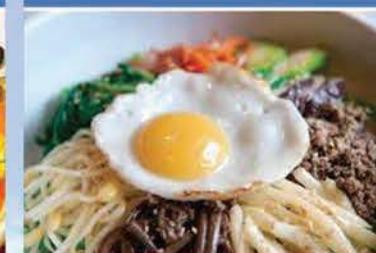
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Salvosa is 2017 Miss Teen Pusong Pinoy

Chloe Hazel Anne Salvosa was crowned Miss Teen Pusong Pinoy last Saturday, Feb. 25, 2016, at Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort, beating out 11 other candidates to take home the tiara.

"I thank God for this blessing, this second chance that He gave me. I thank the peo-

ple that supported me in this pageant," said Salvosa.

Salvosa, who is a junior at Marianas High School, said that her advocacy as Miss Teen Pusong Pinoy is educating the youth about being environment friendly.

Salvosa took home \$800 and a free six-month scholar-

ship from Saipan Music and Dance Studio. She also won the Spirit Award and Best in Evening Gown trophy.

First runner-up Jenalyn Tinio took home \$500 and the Best in Talent award.

Second runner-up Samantha Francisco took home \$300 and two special awards:

Miss Congeniality and Miss Photogenic.

The runners-up will also have six-month scholarship from Saipan Music and Dance Studio.

Crystal Fiona Manipon took home the Miss Charity trophy for her help with fundraising, and Katrina Guevarra took home the Star of the Night award.

"Pusong Pinoy means

wanting to help people, to care for people, and to share. Pusong Pinoy is a Filipino attribute of always looking to make things better for the good of the family/community," said United Filipino Organization president Marlon Regaton.

SueAnn Huevos, Kristen Joy Razon, Stephanie Lagunero, Angela Banez, Nina Ritz Manzon, Christine Anne

Noble, Grace Anne Vendiola, and Erika Lansang were the other contestants.

The panel of judges were Miss Teen CNMI 2001 Gina Duenas, Miss Teen CNMI 2004 Divana Manglona Dela Cruz, Miss Marianas Teen 2016 Palanga Blas Taimanao, Stellar Marianas national director Ping Deleon Guerrero, and MHS principal Cherlyn Cabrera. (Mackenzie Perez)

IGIA

From Page 1

sion of the Interagency Group on Insular Areas. Hosted at the Department of the Interior, the annual conference discussed health and financial concerns for the territories. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who was hosting a congressional delegation in the CNMI, was represented

at the meeting by his chief of staff, Matt Deleon Guerrero.

Clark spoke about his growing interest in the U.S. territories and his role as the principal point of contact for the governors in the Trump administration.

Domenech reminded attendees that, having served as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Areas from Janu-

ary 2008 to January 2009, he was not a stranger to the territories and referred to the many briefings that the Office of Insular Affairs has already provided him on the various challenges and opportunities that the territories are encountering.

In his remarks, Pula asked all attendees to remember a major political leader of the Pacific who often participat-

ed at IGIA plenary sessions, Eni Hunkin Faleomavaega of American Samoa, who died on Feb. 22. Faleomavaega served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 26 years, and Pula declared that American Samoa, the Pacific in general, and the peoples throughout the U.S. territories have lost a champion.

Calvo focused his comments on the challenges that

well-intentioned but misaligned federal policies and regulations impose on the territories' ability to foster economic development and fiscal sustainability. He said immigration, environmental, and tax policies in the territories should be guided by the unique circumstances of the territories and not by the norms of the continental United States.

Mapp addressed the great need for increased federal infrastructure investment in the territories. He noted that the population-based formulas

that determine the allocation of federal infrastructure investment severely handicap the territories' abilities to develop sustainable economic development and achieve greater financial self-sufficiency. He also called for greater attention on the open borders of the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, and the need for greater investment in securing the territories against potential threats.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

CHCC

From Page 1

An immediate solution would be to pay extra overtime for the remaining nurses, which would not only be a financial blow to CHCC, but also be extremely taxing to the nurses themselves, said Muña.

"We are worried," said Muña. "How do we make sure that [CHCC] has enough nurses for the patients? How can we expand our hospital if we do not have the workforce?"

Muña said that CHC's perennial workforce problem could be solved by providing a competitive salary to entice nurses, both local and from the U.S. mainland, and encourage more to pursue a nursing career.

Muña concedes that local nurses do finish a nursing course at the Northern Marianas College but opt not to push through in becoming a registered nurse, RN.

"You produce enough graduate nurses but the problem is, they don't become nurses. The percentage of how many people pass the National Council Licensure Examination, or NCLEX, is small," said Muña.

"We want to provide more incentive for people to take the exam, to pass the exam, and to actually become a nurse. We know that the rate of RNs being produced out of the graduate nurses is small. How do we address that? We have to look at competition," said Muña.

Muña said that recruiting from the U.S. mainland is also tricky due to the islands' less competitive salary.

"Even if we recruit in the U.S., nobody wants to come because of the salary. We have nurses who have graduated here in the CNMI who are locals, but go to the mainland because the salary is not that competitive [here]," said Muña.

The third problem, according to Muña, is that other in-

dustries that also utilize CW workers are competing with CHCC for CW slots.

Muña believes making salaries competitive would benefit CNMI healthcare in general.

"[With a competitive salary], the nurses you are trying to recruit is convinced to come here and the nurses that you are getting out of the college is enticed to pursue and pass the NCLEX to come and work for CHCC as a nurses," she said.

In California, RNs make as much as \$100,000 per annum, while \$40,000 to \$50,000 is the average for Guam. On Saipan, RNs earn about \$20,000 to \$30,000 only.

Long-term solutions may include an employment-based visa, but that itself comes with its own set of problems.

"We are talking about removing and getting away from the CW, [switching to] an employer-based visa. One of the concerns that people have is [retention]," said Muña.

"Nobody can be deprived

of their right to choose, so you can't demand that they stay here. You can demand a payback in the contract, but how do you make them stay?"

By providing a competitive salary, along with an employment-based visa, Muña believes majority of the nursing workforce would be retained.

According to Muña, nine employees would be going home in April due to the expiry of their CW1 visa.

Muña reminded that it is a Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services, or CMS, requirement that there should be at least one RN on duty at all times for each health center.

"We will not remove that," said Muña, referring to both CMS compliance and the placement of at least one RN in the hospital at any given time.

CMS is an invaluable source of funding for CHCC.

"You can't practice healthcare with uncertainty," said Muña.

Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C.

Deleon Guerrero is the chief of staff of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres. He represented Torres in the meeting since the CNMI governor was still on Saipan, hosting the visiting U.S. congressional delegation headed by Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah), last week.

The delegation visited Saipan at the invitation of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) and learn firsthand the immigration and workforce issues that affect the CNMI. They also visited Tinian to look into the U.S. military's planned activities and Rota for the National Park Services study.

Deleon Guerrero said that 36 percent of the CNMI's population was either under the Child Health Insurance Program or Medicaid in 2015. "[But] according to the most recent data available, 46 percent of the population is without any type of health insurance coverage while 51 percent live on income at or below the federal poverty line."

"With a greater percentage of individuals and families living beneath the poverty line than the national average, limited financial resources hinder us from providing quality and affordable health care. As a result, many [of our] residents are forced to seek the care they need off-island, at a greater cost."

He added that the CNMI's Medicaid program is the main source of health coverage that a third of residents avail of. "The CNMI's program essentially acts as a block grant... which is statutorily set at a low

Federal Medical Assistance Percentage of 55 percent."

"The CNMI would be eligible for a percentage far beyond the current arbitrary percentage if FMAP were to be calculated in the same manner as it is for the states. Calculating FMAP based on need would recognize, and better provide for, our large low-income population and provide greater coverage to the many citizens born and raised on U.S. soil in the CNMI who cannot afford to pay for health insurance."

He said the federal cap on Medicaid dollars is also a burden in getting efficient health services. "The constrained budget limits the [CNMI] Medicaid's office to better explore opportunities to innovate the delivery of services to increase efficiency, lower expenditures, and improve patient outcomes. These concerns are not new to the federal government, nor are they unreasonable."

The Bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Economic Growth, which oversaw Puerto Rico's debt crisis, stated in their December 2016 report that territories should also be treated in a more equitable and sustainable manner under the Medicaid program.

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, acting Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Nikolai I. Pula Jr., Deputy Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs Justin R. Clark, Senior White House adviser Douglas W. Domenech, Govs. Lolo Moliga (American Samoa), Eddie Calvo (Guam), and Kenneth Mapp (U.S. Virgin Islands), and representatives from the departments of Health and Human Services and Treasury were also at the meeting.

BOE

From Page 1

Thursday, the Board of Education said that several investors have approached the board in hopes of acquiring the property. The Public School System owns the land where GES is located.

The board declined to identify the investors.

BOE board chair Marylou Ada said that several investors have approached BOE to ask if it is interested in letting go of the property.

The offers have been attractive enough such that the BOE is seriously considering the matter but the question is, what would happen to the school?

To resolve the issue, the BOE has directed Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero to come up

with guidelines to be followed should investors be interested in other schools as well.

"It is very congested down there already," said Ada referring to the immediate surrounding of GES.

Ada added that GES is practically the middle point of Garapan, where most students reside.

"In return for disposing of our property, what do we want from our investors? Who is going to be responsible for designating the land to where the relocation would be? We have to also keep the parents in the loop [in regards to] where the relocation would be located," she said. "We want the parents in the community to be involved."

Ada said that transportation remains key to GES' location, which could be affected if the school relocates.

BOE also sees this oppor-

tunity as a way of upgrading GES into a state-of-the-art facility.

"Do we want them to build a state-of-the-art facility, complete with a baseball field, an auditorium, etc.? We want to have a say on how we want our schools to be designed and built according to our needs and the demographic of our students," she said.

According to Deleon Guerrero, BOE wants to see the feasibility of letting go of the property, including the best recommendation from the management based on the current economic situation and the current environment of GES.

"Many businesses are coming up around us, so we want to be ready and prepared. Although the school campus is enclosed, the students and their learning would be impacted by their

immediate surroundings. The board wants me to look at that and prepare the recommendation and the guidelines for the board to consider," said Deleon Guerrero.

According to Deleon Guerrero, there are at least five investors interested in the property.

Deleon Guerrero did assure, however, that if an offer is presented to BOE and BOE accepts, it would automatically include plans for a new school.

"The focus here is not just on the environmental impact, but the impact on student learning. What are the environmental concerns, what are some of the things that are going around the school that could possibly affect what is going on in the school campus. We need to be very mindful and cautious of that," she said.

More work on WWII Heritage Trail on Saipan, Tinian

Ships of Exploration and Discovery Research, Inc. and East Carolina University's maritime studies program are headed back to Saipan and Tinian on their fourth grant from the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program Grant.

Awarded in 2016, the \$64,600 grant runs two years and hopes to "expand the regional understanding of the World War II "Operation Forager" in the Mariana Islands and monitor the Saipan Underwater Maritime Heritage Trail."

The WWII Maritime Heritage Trail, created in 2010 from ABPP grant funding, consists of 12 submerged and semi-submerged archaeological sites including four aircraft wrecks, two shipwrecks, three tanks, two landing craft, and one Amtrak. It is open to swimmers, snorkelers and divers of all ages and backgrounds. Nine waterproof guides (in English and Japanese) including a site map and historical information can be taken underwater and used to tour around the sites. Additionally, four posters that include images of the wrecks and more in-depth information are available for download online.

The 2016-2018 project continues to conduct research on the trail sites and will collect a second set of corrosion data to assess deterioration of the sites as well as short and long term impacts to the sites such as climate change. The team will also conduct photogrammetric surveys of the sites to create 3D models for interpretation and future management. The combination of these two surveys makes for a robust set of longitudinal data that can be used by local managers.

After working on Saipan, the team will head to Tinian where they will, for the first time, survey the invasion beaches of the Battle for Tinian. Any data and heritage sites will be recorded and used to develop a military terrain analysis of the battlefield that can be used by archaeologists, historians, and managers to understand the battle and protect it into the future.

Public meetings and a robust media presence is planned to involve the community and communicate the project and results. Local partners who have worked with ships in the past include Historic Preservation Office, National Parks Service, Northern Marianas Housing Corp., Coastal Resources Management, and Division of Environmental Quality. The team plans to work with local partners and community members and brings researchers from as far as Australia (Western Australian Museum, Heritage Victoria), Japan (A.P.P.A.R.A.T.U.S. LLC) and the U.S. (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, SEARCH, Inc.). (PR)



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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-17-017

KOBLELVILLE SUMP ADANDONMENT AND WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Koblerville Sump Abandonment and Water System Improvements in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of new transmission and distribution lines, cut and cap of existing lines and tapping to existing mains. The work also includes the installation of air relief valves, new sample taps, and asphalt pavement restoration, etc. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **220 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **March 8, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-17-017, Koblerville Sump Abandonment and Water System Improvements" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 50120, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 23, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on March 10, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org and to Travis Spaeth, CUC Project Engineer via email address travis.spaeth@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAM
Purchasing Administrator

Expert testimony on Carolinian marriages opposed by the OAG

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General wants the Superior Court to prevent Remedio Elameto and her common-law husband Pedro Pua from presenting any expert testimony concerning Carolinian customary marriages.

If not, Elameto and Pua should disclose the identity of any witness it intends to produce at the evidentiary hearing, according to OAG Civil Division chief Christopher Timmons.

Elameto's and Pua's lawyer, Claire Kelleher-Smith, said the best source of information about Carolinian custom are members of the Carolinian community, who have personal knowledge of customary practices.

They claim that the government's argument—that the testimony of experts in the Carolinian custom "has no probative value," "would ultimately constitute a waste of time" "would unnecessarily confuse the issues before the court" and "would involve unfair prejudice"—is wholly without merit.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ordered Friday that the presentation of testimony on the issue of Carolinian customary marriage will start tomorrow, Tuesday, at 9am. Camacho will hear today, Monday, at 9am argument any preliminary issues related to the evidentiary hearing.

Elameto and Pua are suing the CNMI government and two former Commonwealth Health Center doc-

tors Rajee Iyer and Gary Ramsey for medical malpractice, bad faith, and emotional distress and loss of consortium.

Elameto claimed that a surgical team at CHC left a 15-centimeter long surgical clamp in her abdomen during a surgery to address her irregular periods and ovarian cysts in August 2000.

Elameto disclosed that it was almost 14 years later—in June 2014—when the surgical clamp was discovered and removed at Guam Memorial Hospital.

Timmons is counsel for the CNMI government and co-defendants. He discussed Carolinian marriages in the government's opposition to Elameto and Pua's brief pertaining to the legal validity of Carolinian customary marriage.

Elameto and Pua have asked the court to allow them to present expert witnesses on Carolinian customary marriage.

Timmons said that should include a certification whether the witness intends to produce expert testimony under the Rules of Civil Procedure, the subject matter on which the witness is expected to testify, and a summary of the facts and opinions to which the witness is expected to testify.

Timmons said the court cannot look to evidence beyond the pleadings without converting the Rule 12 motion to dismiss filed by the government into a Rule 56 motion for summary judgment.

He said Elameto and Pua did not plead a theory of Carolinian customary marriage in their complaint, so it would be

improper to hear evidence on this unasserted theory.

Timmons said plaintiffs have refused to identify the experts they intend to call at the hearing and no discovery has been conducted in this case.

He said the upcoming hearing is akin to an oral presentation of a legal treatise, and will provide the court with the information necessary to clearly articulate the legal rules concerning Carolinian customary marriage.

Kelleher-Smith said there is no "unfair surprise" as the government knows that customary Carolinian marriage is widely practiced and recognized here.

"Now, it is simply a matter of putting this information on the record for the court," she said, adding that the government's request for last-minute depositions serves no purpose other than to delay the case and further burden the plaintiffs.

The lawyer said the court should deny the government's motion in full and allow the hearing on customary Carolinian marriage to proceed.

Carolinian customary relationships that are not solemnized are not marriages, according to Timmons. He stated that, on the other hand, Carolinian customary relationships that are solemnized are marriages.

Timmons said the court should dismiss Pua's complaint for loss of consortium.

Loss of consortium refers to a cause of action in a civil lawsuit that is available to family members of a person injured or killed by the wrongful acts of another.

DOJ does not object to stay of Guanlao's case

The U.S. government took no position on Stephen Woodruff's request to allow him withdraw as counsel for a Filipino mother who is challenging an order for her removal from the CNMI.

If the U.S. District Court for the NMI does allow Woodruff to withdraw, then the U.S. government would not object to staying Amalia Abo Guanlao's case, according to Kimberly Helvey, senior litigation counsel for the Department of Justice Office of Immigration.

That would allow Guanlao to get a new lawyer, she said.

Guanlao is suing then-U.S. Department of Homeland Secretary Jeh Johnson and several U.S. immigration officials to contest her removal from the CNMI. She has two U.S. children, both minors.

In his motion to withdraw,

Woodruff said to his observation, Guanlao is now unable to accept his advice, think clearly about her case, or grasp his explanation of matters related to her case.

Woodruff said Guanlao has

repeated errors in her perception and understanding of matters relating to her case.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has stayed Guanlao's removal while the court hears her petition.

In his request to withdraw, Woodruff said he fears that the improper conduct of DOJ, who is counsel for the respondents, has permanently damaged the attorney-client relationship.

He said if the court grants his motion to withdraw, the respondents' motion to disqualify him as counsel for Guanlao should be denied on the mer-



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-17-019

GROUND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR CUC WATER & WASTEWATER FACILITIES, SAIPAN

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms capable of providing Ground Maintenance Services for CUC Water and Wastewater facilities in Saipan, in compliance with USEPA inspection and sanitary survey requirements.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$50.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A mandatory pre-bid conference followed by a site visit is scheduled for **March 2, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Saipan, to ensure prospective bidders are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions.

CUC will award a contract to more than one firm for said services, based on bids for "Service Section" pursuant to Scope-of-Work.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-17-019, Ground Maintenance Services for CUC Water & Wastewater Facilities, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 50120, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on March 17, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bids shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered prospective bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 6, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email — manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Gary Byrd, CUC Water & Wastewater Division Manager via email-gary.byrd@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Procurement Technician, via email-marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAM
Purchasing Administrator

A woman who allegedly used her dress shop in Chalan Kanoa as a front to sell methamphetamine or "ice" broke down in tears after pleading guilty on Friday.

Hong Xia Shao Ayuyu, 46,

An ex-convict who was slapped in 2012 with a 24-month prison term after being convicted of possession of a firearm has admitted to allegations that he has been using methamphetamine or "ice" again, in violation of his supervision condition.

Justin A. Funkugub's lawyer, David G. Banes, told the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday that his client's "ice" use was just once in the last almost four months, since November 2016. He recommended a sentence of just 30 days, all suspended except 15 days. The sentencing was held Friday.

Banes said that Funkugub gave in to temptation as he had been repeatedly trying to contact his foster family and only realized that day that they had abandoned him.

Even so, Banes said, Funkugub did not go looking for "ice" or alcohol. Instead, someone came to him and offered him a hit from a lit pipe.

The lawyer said Funkugub was feeling depressed so he gave in and took the pipe.

Banes asked the court to allow Funkugub to continue to be a productive member of society and a good husband and father to his adopted family.

pleaded guilty to two counts of illegal possession of a controlled substance. A court marshal later brought her tissue and water to calm her down.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho set

her sentencing for Aug. 2, 2017.

Ayuyu, through assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit, asked that she be allowed to remain out of custody pending her sentencing but her request was denied. Camacho

Ex-convict Funkugub admits to using 'ice' again

He said 15 days of prison term is appropriate so Funkugub won't lose his job or his last chance at having a family.

Funkugub was summoned to appear before U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David O. Carter on Friday, for revocation hearing.

According to U.S. probation officer Gregory F. Arriola, Funkugub tested positive for the use of methamphetamine last Jan. 11. He said Funkugub also violated the location monitoring program rules when he made an unauthorized movement last Jan. 30.

Arriola said Funkugub first denied using "ice" but later admitted, saying he was tired and needed the energy.

Last Nov. 9, the court revoked Funkugub's probation for testing positive for "ice" use. He was sentenced to eight days imprisonment, followed by 26 months of supervised release.

In November 2012, Funkugub was sentenced to 24 months in prison for pleading guilty to the offense of felon in possession of a firearm. He was given credit for 40 days of time served.

Funkugub was found in pos-

session of a revolver that had an obliterated serial number.

In February 2015, the court revoked Funkugub's supervised release for admitting to drug use on multiple occasions and his failure to report for drug testing and counseling sessions. He was ordered to serve three months in prison, followed by a 33-month term of supervised release.

In July 2015, the U.S. Probation found out that the defendant used "ice" on two separate occasions and failed to report to multiple counseling sessions. The court did not revoke his probation as he was compliant and was taking care of a sick uncle.

Last May, the U.S. Probation found out that Funkugub failed to attend a counseling session, failed to report to two drug tests, failed to follow a probation officer's instructions, and admitted to "ice" use last June 7.

Last June, the court sentenced him to three days of time served, followed by 27 months of supervised release. Funkugub was ordered to serve six months under home detention. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Woman selling 'ice' at dress shop pleads guilty

The OAG later amended the charges to only two counts of illegal possession of a controlled substance. The charges carry a maximum prison term of 10 years.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Police said the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force received information that the defendant, also known as Mama, sells "ice" at her business establishment, known as C.K. Dress Shop.

A cooperating defendant

managed to buy 1.6 gross grams of "ice" worth \$180 from Ayuyu in the back of the dress shop. The same cooperating defendant purchased \$660 worth of 3.6 gross grams of "ice" from Ayuyu a few days later.

The task force arrested Ayuyu last Nov. 12. She was released after asking to serve as a cooperating defendant, but was re-arrested for allegedly not cooperating with law enforcers. Ayuyu was re-arrested in Chalan Kanoa. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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² Receive an insulated cup when you open a new **Totally Free** Checking account at First Hawaiian Bank, enroll in Direct Deposit and receive your first qualified Direct Deposit. Qualified Direct Deposit of \$500 or more must occur within 60 days of account opening. We reserve the right to substitute an item of similar value. Please allow 6-8 weeks after your qualified direct deposit to receive a certificate for the insulated cup. This certificate can be redeemed at any First Hawaiian Bank Branch. Limit one insulated cup per customer or account. Offer expires February 28, 2017 or when supplies are exhausted.

³ Does not apply to access through Quicken® or Quickbooks®. Optional Online Banking features may incur additional fees. You must be enrolled in FHB Online and have a mobile device with Internet to use FHB Mobile Banking. Device must have a rear-facing camera with autofocus to use mobile Deposit. See FAQs in the "Mobile Deposit" section of fhb.com/mobile for Mobile Deposit eligibility requirements. Checks deposited via Mobile Deposit are treated as deposits by mail for funds availability purposes. See Terms and Conditions of FHB Online services for full details. Text banking not available in Guam or CNMI.

⁴ Free eStatements or paper statements.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Office of the Secretary of Public Works



ENERGY DIVISION

P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950

Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4480/1 • Fax No. (670) 664-4483 • e-mail: cnmienergy@gmail.com

PUBLIC HEARING

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Governor in cooperation with the Department of Public Works/Energy Division Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) will be conducting a public hearing to present the proposed WAP State Plan for Program Year 2017 and is inviting the General Public to attend this important Public Hearing.

The public hearing will be held at the Energy Division office located on Capitol Hill, House No. 1337 on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Individuals who are unable to attend the public hearing in person may submit written comments to the Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House No. 1337, Saipan or by e-mail to cnmienergy@gmail.com or by mail to P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950 on or before close of business on Friday, March 31, 2017.

Copies of the Draft State Plan will be made available at the Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House No. 1337 beginning Monday, February 20, 2017.

For more information, you may contact Thelma B. Inos, Energy Director, at 664-4480/81 or you may visit the Energy Division Office on Capitol Hill, Monday to Friday, except holidays, and from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

HINEKKUNGUK PUPBLIKU

I Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas siha gi Ufisinan Gubietnu yan i ko'operasion i Dipattamentun Che'chu' Pupbliku/Dibision Energy gi Prugrāman Asistensian Weatherization (WAP) para u makundukta hinekkunguk pupbliku ni para u maprinsenta i manmaproponi na WAP State Plan para i Prugrāman i sakkan 2017 yan ha kumbibida i Pupbliku Henerāt para u ma'tendi esti na impottāntin Hinekkunguk Henerāt.

I hinekkunguk pupbliku para u makundukta gi Dibision Energy, giya Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' #1337, gi Metkoles, Mātsu 15, 2017, gi oran alas 5:00 gi pupuengi. Todu indibiyūt siha ni ti sumifa umatendi i hinekkunguk henerāt siha mun'a halum tinigi' upiñon siha guatu gi Dibision Energy, Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' 1337, Saipan pat i email guatu gi cnmienergy@gmail.com pat na'hāno i kāttām-mu guatu gi P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950 gi pat a'ntis di u mahuchum i ufsina si, Betnes, Mātsu 31, 2017.

Kopia siha gi Draft State Plan para u mana'guaha gi Dibision Energy, Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' 1337 tinituhun gi Betnes, February 20, 2017.

Para más imfotasion, siha un ågang si Thelma B. Inos, Direktot Energy, gi 664-4480/81 pat siha un bisita i Ufisinan Dibision Energy giya Capitol Hill, Lunis asta Betnis, fuera di holidays, yan gi oran alas 11:30 gi egga'an asta alas 12:30 gi dispues di talu'āni.

ARONGORONGOL TOULAP

Bwulasiyol Sow Lemelem lóil Commonwealth wóli Téél Faluw kka Faluwasch Elóng Marianas fengá me olilisil Bwulasiyol Public Works/Energy Division Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) e bwe ayoora eew arongorong reer toulap bwelle e bwe apasa rel pommol WAP State Plan rel Program Year 2017.

Arongorong yeel e bwe fis me rel Energy Division me Capitol Hill, House #1337, wóol Merkulis, Mātālap 15, 2017, óttol 5:00 p.m.

Schóókka rese towe re bwe fiti arong yeel, e mmwel schagh u bwe iischi long mááfíyómw rel Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House # 1337, Seipéi: ngáre e-mail ngáli: cnmienergy@gmail.com me ngáre atangá ngáli P.O.Box 500340, Seipéi, MP 96950 wóol me ngáre mmwel igha ebwe titiló óttoo angaang wóli Bennis, Mātālap 31, 2017.

Kkopiyl Draft Plan yeel nge emmwel rebwe bweibwogh me Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House #1337, wóol Lunis, Ma'schigh 20, 2017.

Rel kkapasal, e mmwel ów bwe fatiñg ló llemwáár ye Thelma B. Inos, Energy Director, rel 664-4480/81 me ngáre igha u bwe mwette ló rel Bwulasiyol Energy Division ye e llo Capitol hill, Luunis mwette ngáli Bennis, saabw holidays, me óttoo 11:30 a.m. ngáli 12:30 p.m.

/s/ James A. Ada
Secretary of Public Works



Commonwealth Development Authority

2nd Floor CDA Bldg., Oleai, Saipan
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245 Fax: (670) 235-7147
Website: www.developcnmi.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

POSITION VACANCY: Comptroller, Ungraded
ANNUAL SALARY: Up to \$70,000
CLOSING DATE: March 3, 2017

This position is an excepted service position. The incumbent in this position shall manage the Accounting Department and provide information primarily in nature to the Executive Director and the Board of Directors. The incumbent shall also perform other functions as the Executive Director and the Board of Directors may require.

GENERAL DUTIES

- Oversees the activities of the Accounting Department for the accurate and timely dissemination of financial management reports including but not limited to, internal and external financial statements productions.
- Keeps the official books and accounts of the Authority
- Prepares an annual report of the financial condition of the Authority for the Board Directors.
- Prepares response to audit exceptions and recommend alternative solutions.
- Approves all accruals and journal entries for posting to the general ledger.
- Supervises and reviews the work of the accounting staff to assure the CDA's financial records are properly maintained and recorded.
- Tracks all of CDA's investments and make recommendations to increase income.
- Prepares and monitors in conjunctions with Bond Trustee designated Trust Department Officer a schedule of investments within the guidelines established by the Trust Agreement and the CDA Act with scheduled maturity dated to provide the quality of funds to meet the CNMI capital improvement projects local matching funds requirements. Said plan to be concurred by the Executive Director.
- Prepares financial statements and other documents as directed by the Executive Director and/or the Chairman of the Board during the development and underwriting of any bond issue.
- Maintains a profit and loss statement on all Bond issues and Trust Funds.
- Participates in a wide variety of special projects and compile a variety of special reports as requested by the Board of Directors.
- Reviews all CIP contracts and determine if fund certification is appropriate.
- Maintains financial records of all capital improvement projects funded by CDA and/or those for which CDA provided any local matching funds.
- Attends all CDA and DCD meetings.
- Establishes and maintain systems and controls which verify the integrity of all systems, process, and data.
- Provides training for the accounting employees.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

EDUCATION AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS / SKILLS

Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from a U.S. accredited college or university. Minimum of five (5) years of professional experience in government or financial accounting. U.S. Certified Public Accountant is preferred but not required. Must have knowledge of QuickBooks accounting software; Able to make legislative presentations and to interpret laws, contracts, ordinances, and regulations; Effectively communicate orally and in writing; Possesses a strong management skills; Proficient in MS Office applications; and Able to establish and maintain cooperative working relationship with others.

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with employment application form, during regular working hours at the CDA Office, 2nd Floor, CDA Building, Oleai or may be obtained on CDA's website at www.developcnmi.com.

Applicants are requested to submit their application and supporting documents to the Office of Personnel Management.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Christy Kintol, Office Manager at (670) 234-6245 extension 310 or by e-mail at c.kintol@developcnmi.com.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

COMMUNITY SUPERVISION PROVIDER

Announcement # JVA17-012

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the supervision of the Drug Court Manager in the Drug Court Division on Saipan which actively monitors drug court participants outside of the drug court setting including conducting home and job visits. All clients contact is documented and visits logged to help encourage positive participant behavior. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Ensures random drug testing and community supervision practices are in accordance with Drug Court policies and procedures;
- Performs all assigned duties relating to cases scheduled for drug court hearings;
- Coordinates criminal background checks for drug court participants;
- Gathers and evaluates data pertinent to individual cases from resource areas like the participants' home, school, church, social agencies, neighborhood contacts, etc.
- Documents facts with respect to the drug court participants' activities, behavior, and quality of adjustment while on supervision;
- Reports investigative findings conducted by assigned Drug Court law enforcement officer (s) to drug court and prepares recommendations for the proper case disposition;
- Appears in drug court hearings with the ability to provide testimony on drug court cases;
- Provides periodic interviews of participants to determine effectiveness of Drug Court mandates, supervision, counseling, etc.
- Maintains ongoing relationship with participants throughout the duration of the program;
- Follows Court policy for monitoring payments ordered by the Drug Court. The payments to be monitored include, but are not limited to, drug court fees, restitution, fine, child supports, etc.;
- Plans office activities, conferences and field visits in connection with investigation and supervision functions;
- Maintains accurate, neat, legible and up to date case records in the prescribed form;
- Attends public relations activities such as community group meetings, conference, panel discussions, and other related forums;
- Responsible for and conducts gender-specific, observed drug testing in accordance with CNMI Drug Court protocols;
- Continually assess and review supervision and drug testing protocols and terms and conditions of supervision regularly to ensure they are still working for the target populations; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and have obtained a bachelors degree from a recognized college or university in the criminal or behavioral science field. Also, have been the beneficiary of training in law enforcement and be able to write reports.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary range will be \$25,000 - \$28,000 per annum.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This internal job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

GRT special account to be source of additional funds

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A bill to create a special account where casino gross revenue tax funds would go has been recommended for passage in the House of Representatives.

The Ways and Means Committee chaired by Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), has recommended that House Bill 20-15 be included in the calendar in next week's session.

Demapan introduced the measure.

The bill seeks to allow the Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Northern Marianas College, Northern Marianas Trades Institute, and the CNMI drug court to receive funds from the special account.

"But that would have to be done by an appropriation bill when the revenues have been declared as available [for allocation]. HB 20-15 sets up the

account, with the money as additional source of funds for these agencies [and] includes payment for the fuel adjustment charge of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp."

"It also included the CNMI State Public School System, the medical referral program, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and land compensation."

HB 20-15 reserves a total of \$15 million of the casino GRT to cover any shortfall in paying off 25 percent of retirees' pensions "to compensate for the absence of the fifth-year payment of the casino license fee, which was paid in advance together with the first year's payment pursuant to the casino license agreement," said Demapan.

The Division of Customs, Latte Training Academy, and the Commonwealth Transit Authority were also included as recipient of funds aside from DPS, DFEMS, CNMI drug court, NMC, and NMTC.

Demapan said these agencies provide vital services that serve, protect, and educate the people. "In addition to enhancing the overall outlook of our Commonwealth. [Ways and Means] further finds the need to enhance our law enforcement agencies with the CNMI's population increasing and the spike in our economy."

"Law enforcement authorities would require to be prepared in using modern equipment and tools, and have additional manpower to be able to perform and respond to their increasing responsibilities with the CNMI's growing population and construction of buildings."

The drug court was established to rehabilitate and treat individuals who become addicted to illegal drugs and substance abusers. "We found that there is a need to provide funding assistance to support the costs associated with expert and specialized treatment services for its participants."



AT THE DNC

NMI Democratic National committeeman Michael White and NMI Democratic Party chair Danny Quittuqua have their picture taken with DNC chair (Indiana Mayor) Pete Buttigieg. Other photo shows NMI Democratic National ccommitteewoman Nola Hix with the CNN Democratic leadership debate moderators Dana Bash and Chris Cuomo

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

'Agricultural homestead suitable for Pagan'

Legislators believe the island of Pagan is suitable for an agricultural homestead program, which is one of the things that the late Northern Islands mayor Jerome K. Aldan had been pushing for, aside from opposing planned bombing activities by the U.S. military.

Sen. Justo S. Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) said that—creating a homestead program on Pagan—is one of the goals of Public Law 16-50, which he co-authored in the House of Representatives with former Speaker Oscar M. Babauta and then-representative Joseph N. Camacho.

PL 16-50 is the former House Bill 16-146 that would establish a village and an agricultural homestead program in the Northern Islands.

EPA: No CUC violation in drinking water regs in 2016

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. did not violate the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's water regulations in 2016, according to EPA inspector John Tinger.

In his declaration, Tinger stated that CUC reported compliance with all primary drinking water quality standards in 2016 and did not have any case of exceeding total coliform form standards in 2016.

E. coli is a fecal bacteria and is an indication of sewage or animal waste contamination. It is an indicator of potential drinking water contamination but is not, in itself, an immediate health risk, according to EPA.

Tinger said that in June 2012, CUC violated EPA's primary drinking water regulations for E. coli in the Koblerville area due to leaks

Quitugua said PL 16-50 gives Northern Island natives currently living on Saipan a reason to return to their home islands in Pagan.

"[PL 16-50] allows and opens up the homesteading program. We have residents of the Northern Islands here living on Saipan where they could return and establish villages and agricultural homestead in the islands where they were born."

He added that the Northern Islanders could not avail of the homesteading programs on Saipan since they are not originally from here. "At the same time there's not enough land for the homesteading program here."

"[PL 16-50] gives them the opportunity of having a place

of their own—'this is my land, my home, my farm, my ranch.' They will have their names on the property and they will be the owners."

Quitugua said that Aldan was passionate in convincing the Department of Public Lands to open up the homestead program in Pagan to help residents who want to return to one of the northernmost islands in the CNMI.

Aldan passed away on Jan. 18. He was rushed to the Commonwealth Health Center when he collapsed after having a late dinner in a restaurant in San Jose.

Reps. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) and Edmund S. Villagomez said that it was Aldan's vision to help his constituents settle back on Pagan and cultivate the land.

"The late mayor really pushed hard for the welfare of the people of the Northern Islands. He is passionate in re-establishing villages up there, especially in Pagan. Amongst the other things that he wanted were economic opportunities for the Northern Islanders," said Villagomez.

Blanco added that the CNMI should help make Aldan's vision of developing Pagan a reality so people can move back.

"I think that we should not

let any barrier stop us with that vision. One of DPL's visions is to also issue agricultural lands to the people of the Northern Islands, for residents there to farm and cultivate their own land."

Blanco sees a lot of opportunity for the island of Pagan. "I believe we could develop Pagan as an agricultural and farming island where produce could also help the CNMI. The only issue that we need to resolve is finding a way of transporting these goods from Pagan and to the other islands."

"It might be a little bit of a challenge but there's always a solution to every problem. We should grab the opportunities

that we have in front of us and study our options."

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) said it was Aldan who put up the plans for the Northern Frontier program that would develop Pagan. "Mayor Aldan was passionate with the homestead program from the beginning. He was among those who planned to develop Pagan."

"He has a vision and ambitious plans that is reflective of his spirit and passion of serving his people. What he wanted for the people of Pagan and the CNMI is to one day resettle on the lands that is rightfully theirs and build communities there like in Saipan, Timian, and Rota." (Jon Perez)

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Head Start Policy Council
Meeting Agenda

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Head Start Policy Council hereby gives notice that it will have a Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 2, 2017 at 3:00p.m., at the Head Start Facilities Office, Bldg. 1255, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order 3. Quorum 5. Adoption of Minutes
2. Roll Call 4. Adoption of Agenda a. December 7, Turn Over Meeting

II. Public Comments¹
Communications
1. State Board of Education
2. Office of Head Start
a. Head Start Program Refunding Letter
b. Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Refunding Letter
c. Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Under enrollment Letter

IV. Reports
1. Program
a. Director b. Managers
2. Financial Status
3. Center /Community Representative

V. Old Business

VI. New Business
a. Head Start/Early Head Start 15-16 Annual Report
b. Early Head Start Child Care Partnership
i. Under-enrollment Plan
ii. Request to convert partnership slots
c. Updated School Readiness Goals
d. 2016-2017 Program Self Assessment Report
e. Parent Activity Fund
i. Chalan Kanoa iv. San Antonio vii. Oleai x. Tinian
ii. Dandan v. Tanapag viii. Rota
iii. Rota vi. Kagan ix. Joaquina M Rabauliman

VII. Executive Session²

VIII. Next Meeting

IX. Adjournment

This meeting is open to the public. Interested individuals are welcome to attend. Any person(s) requiring special accommodations may contact Mrs. Candace Q. Celis at (670) 664-3761 or email address at candace.celis@cnripss.org, several days of notice are required.

/s/ Ana Ada
Chairwoman

¹ Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Council may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

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CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

President Trump forces the issue of illegal immigration

Will we continue to be a nation with a heart? Trump is forcing us to finally give an answer. The immigration debate has festered for years. The nation's unwillingness to resolve it has been shameful. Now, President Donald Trump has ripped the scab off this wound with a tough policy against those here illegally that should drive a comprehensive solution to our broken system.

What happens next will be a test for the nation—for its legal and political systems, law enforcement, economy, communities and most especially its values. This will play out for a long time, and it is unclear whether taxpayers will be willing to spend billions of dollars to deport those workers who are a key part of our economy. For now, Trump has succeeded in conveying his clear message: We don't want you here.

Some immigrants here without proper documentation might decide to leave, others are likely to withdraw deeper into the shadows. And those who were thinking of coming here might decide to stay put.

Unfortunately, he also is creating fear with dissonant information from his administration. The official line is that there will be no mass deportations and, instead, criminals are the priority for expulsion. But Trump has widened the net of those at risk to include anyone who has abused a public-benefits program such as food stamps. There will be no deportation force, officials say, but Trump wants to hire 10,000 new Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents and 5,000 Border Patrol agents and build deportation centers. Trump will deal with people brought here as children "with heart," he says, without explaining what the guidelines will be for those known as Dreamers.

Some Americans want to kick out each and every one of the estimated 11 million people here without legal status. Many are more willing to find a comprehensive and compassionate solution. Let's be clear, violent criminals and those with histories of violating the law must be sent back. But many immigrants are long-time law-abiding residents with children who are citizens, and they work and pay taxes and contribute to their communities. How do we strike a balance?

The tricky calculus has many variables, and many players will shape the solution. Congress must decide whether to pay to hire thousands of ICE agents and how quickly it can be done. There are 2,000 Border Patrol vacancies because of the difficulty in finding agents who meet the agency's standards. The courts will weigh in on issues like due process; one measure unlikely to pass muster subjects to deportation anyone whose acts could result in a "chargeable criminal offense." That is a very broad category. Multiple layers of government—states, cities, counties, towns, villages, sheriffs and police—must decide their degree of cooperation with federal agents. They should be wary of apprehending anyone unless presented with a judicial warrant authorizing the arrest.

Four years ago, nasty partisanship derailed a Senate bill that offered a solution for dealing with those who are here illegally but are integral members of our communities. Trump is forcing us to finally solve this problem. It's not enough to say we are a nation of laws, because we also are a nation of values. How we respond will define us.

(C)2017 NEWSDAY



Truth-seeking press not the enemy

The next time you read about a newsroom making cuts, think about the extraordinary reporting shedding light on the new administration.

When I made that point in a tweet recently, it accumulated more than a thousand "likes." Of course, it fell on deaf ears at the White House, where, two days later, @realDonaldTrump tweeted: "The FAKE NEWS media (failing @nytimes, @NBCNews, @ABC, @CBS, @CNN) is not my enemy, it is the enemy of the American People!"

The last time I checked, he had generated 154,693 likes, but it didn't persuade me. Nor, apparently, the many who began using the hashtag #NotTheEnemy.

From literally day one—think crowd size at the inauguration—President Trump has used every opportunity to bash the "mainstream" media. Typical were his comments at that epic news conference:

"The press has become so dishonest that if we don't talk about it, we are doing a tremendous disservice to the American people—tremendous disservice. ... The level of dishonesty is out of control."

"... How does the press get this information that's classified? ... Because it's an illegal process, and the press should be ashamed of themselves. But, more importantly, the people that gave out the information to the press should be ashamed of themselves. Really ashamed."

The president is attacking one of our best checks on government—especially at a time when Congress shows no interest in playing that role with regard to the relationship between the president's pals and Russia. His anger was precipitated by revelatory journalism that takes time and money, including:

CNN's accurate report Jan. 12 that both President Barack Obama and the president-elect were briefed on "allegations that Russian operatives claim to have compromising personal and financial information about Mr. Trump."

David Ignatius' Jan. 12 report in the Washington Post revealing that Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn had spoken with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak regarding the sanctions imposed by Obama.

And the New York Times' front-page, above-the-fold story Feb. 15 revealing that Trump associates had ongoing dialogues with Russian intelligence officials in the year before the election.

We know (what little) we know only because of old-fashioned, gumshoe reporting of the kind that is in short supply these

By MICHAEL SMERCONISH

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Michael Smerconish writes for The Philadelphia Inquirer, and is host of "Smerconish" on CNN. Readers may contact him at www.smerconish.com



days because of newsroom layoffs across the country. Sure, there's been an explosion of self-described journalist bloggers, but people with laptops sitting in their PJ's are no substitute for investigative reporters. Where print advertising has plummeted and newspaper staffs have been eviscerated, we are seeing a damaging trend where there's less investigative journalism and government goes unchecked. And not just on a national level. Think about some of the local stories uncovered by sleuthing.

Nobody likes leaking, including me. But the reality is that were it not for the leaks about Michael Flynn, he'd still be a national security adviser who'd spoken with the Russian ambassador about sanctions but said otherwise publicly and to the vice president—a situation known both to him and the Russians, creating the risk of blackmail.

Trump attempted to cloak himself in the words of a founding father while speaking at a rally last weekend in Florida. He quoted Thomas Jefferson as saying in 1807 that "nothing can be believed which is seen in a newspaper." The full quote, which was contained in a letter to John Norvell, is more nuanced:

"It is a melancholy truth, that a suppression of the press could not more compleatly (sic) deprive the nation of its benefits, than is done by its abandoned prostitution to falsehood. Nothing can now be believed which is seen in a newspaper. Truth itself becomes suspicious by being put into that polluted vehicle."

Jefferson had grown more skeptical of the press while president. But 20 years prior, as U.S. minister to France, Jefferson said the following in a letter to Edward Carrington:

"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive those papers and be capable of reading them."

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the

right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Requiem for a liberal

As I write this, on Friday morning, I learned that Alan Colmes passed away of lymphoma—a particularly nasty form of cancer. Alan was the token liberal spokesman on Fox News, and also had his own radio talk show on the Fox network. He had done well.

I first met Alan 43 years ago, in 1974. I had just finished directing a musical, which ran for many weeks, and I needed a break. Somehow I discovered the wacky comedy of Monty Python's Flying Circus, and thought, "I'd like to do something like that..."

I was living in Boston at the time and put an ad in the Boston Phoenix—"funny people needed for a comedy group." Alan answered my ad, as did another friend, John Roarke (a fantastic impressionist).

So Alan, John and I formed a comedy trio. We called ourselves "Excuse Me" and got work at the Boston Playboy Club in their newly-opened comedy room. We also toured colleges in New England and did pretty well. It was exciting—to write a comedy sketch and then put it on before an appreciative audience.

Comedians tend to be loners, and we became our own best friends. Sometimes John and I would take the train out to Alan's parents house in Lynbrook, Long Island.

Alan had a gorgeous redhead girlfriend named Joyce. In addition to being beautiful, Joyce also played the accordion. So she'd be playing Lady of Spain, and Alan would wisecrack, "Isn't she FABULOUS?" John and I would howl and Joyce always looked baffled.

"Excuse Me" continued for another year, but we weren't making any money and there were not good agents in Boston. Both John and Alan struck out for New York City, while I went up to New Hampshire to teach English and direct plays at Milford High School.

Alan and John quickly became regulars at The Comic Strip, a comedy club on Second Avenue. They kept calling me to quit teaching and to come down to join them. I eventually did, in 1978, but by then John and Alan were establishing themselves as solo comics.

Alan was starting to do well in radio also. He was first on WPIX and sometimes John and I would visit him in the studio and be goofy for his listeners. Gorgeous Joyce was the engineer—but no accordion playing, thank goodness.

The really fun part was taking phone calls from the listeners. I did a character called "Bleeto the Elf" and would appear on the show each Christmastime. I talked in a high squeaky voice, and brought some prepared jokes. The audience loved Bleeto, and Alan was the perfect straight man.

Bleeto: "I have worked for the S. Clause Foundation for a very



Colmes



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

File photo shows the author, left, and Alan Colmes in New York City.

long time. And, after you've been with Mr. Claus for 10 years, they move you up the ladder."

Alan: "The corporate ladder?"

Bleeto: "No, it's a little yellow plastic thing you climb."

By the early 1980's Alan got scooped up by WABC, also in New York, but it was a little too formal for Bleeto the Elf and funny guests, unless they were celebrities. John got hired by an ABC TV show, "Fridays," which was ABC's answer to Saturday Night Live. "Fridays" ran for two years and helped launch the career of Michael Richards (also known as Kramer). I started writing for television—the USA network had a comedy show, "Commander USA's Groovie Movies." Later I went over to VH1, where they were launching a live, funny, morning show—"The VH1 Eggman." As one of the other writers later remarked, "If we had just worked a little harder, the show could have been a piece of crap." But I continued to do stand-up comedy, and was scouted by Saturday Night Live, which was terrific. But they didn't hire me. It happens.

WNBC offered Alan a great afternoon spot, and he couldn't resist the opportunity or the money offered. In fact, he was the last announcer on WNBC; after that they closed the station. But Alan continued to do stand-up and was frequently the M.C. at The Comic Strip.

One of the best things Alan Colmes ever did for me was an

sites," not how many national parks you've been to in the mainland, not whether my son thinks about soldiers, and not about all the federal aid given to the island. My son is a young student who courageously stood in front of all of you to communicate his and his generation's view of opposition. He did not shout insults from the back of the crowd. He did not try to embarrass nor intimidate you. He politely and respectfully apologized beforehand if his views would not be popular but believed the issue to be important enough to have the courage to stand before his elders, the feds and deliver his message of opposition.

If you don't agree with my son and you believe that federal takeover of our cultural sites and natural resources is "for our own good," then by all means say so. Please don't resort to being a bully and intimidating my son. I may be wrong, but from what I understand from a U.S. Army Green Beret special forces Vietnam veteran who has also been to many national parks, thinks about all the soldiers overseas and is blatantly aware of the federal aid given to the islands, that berating, embarrassing, and intimidating children in front of the feds and our own people holds absolutely no honor whatsoever. Your conduct that evening was dishonorable, insulting and completely unbecoming of any who wore that uniform.

If you were upset with his aunt's testimony and were insulted that she was not there herself, please feel free to communicate your view with her directly. Her name is Angelita Mendiola and she's married to Diego D. Mendiola, who by the way is the vet-

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

NPS holds kangaroo hearing on Rota

On Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2017, the National Parks Service held a public hearing to obtain testimonies on the issue regarding the NPS' potential takeover of a number of cultural sites on Rota. My 15-year-old son gathered his courage to stand in front of the gathered crowd and deliver his testimony in opposition to any such takeover. In addition to his own testimony, he also attempted to read a testimony of his aunt who, by virtue of health, was unable to attend in person. While trying to deliver such testimonies, he was several times rudely interrupted, berated and embarrassed by a 50-plus-year-old retired Army veteran. This veteran went completely off the subject at hand, told my son that he has been to many national parks, asked my son if he thinks about soldiers serving across seas, whether my son knows about all the federal aid given to the island, and if my son is making insults to soldiers.

To him I say this: Sir, thank you for your service. If you had no amount of intelligence to understand the subject nor clue, the issue being discussed was "federal takeover of Rota's cultural

By RUSS MASON, M.S.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, Alternative & Complementary Therapies. His principal assignment was to interview a physician or other health care practitioner about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.



introduction to my act when I appeared at The Comic Strip. He said, "Now I want to bring up a guy who used to write for Saturday Night Live!" The audience nearly exploded at this announcement. Alan then said, "Unfortunately, they didn't use much of his material..." But the audience thought it was a joke—and that I was some special, anointed, comedic genius. That night I could do no wrong: "I killed."

The truth was that SNL did indeed use some of my material, but I never got writing credit or even pay. This was 1982, and there was a new producer, Jean Doumanian. They were going through writers like a fat man through French fries. Jean was in way over her head and Lorne Michaels was coaxed back to produce the show.

I am not sure when Alan made the leap to Fox News, to co-star with Sean Hannity. Hannity had his own show at the time, and felt Alan would be a great asset, to represent the liberal point of view, in contrast to Hannity's conservatism. The ratings soared and "Hannity & Colmes" became the most-watched show in the Fox lineup.

With his new career as a TV personality, Alan cut back on doing stand-up. After three years together with Sean Hannity, Alan got the boot. I asked him about this, but he was dismissive in his reply. However, a well-connected friend said that Alan embarrassed Karl Rove on live TV, and that Rove made some phone calls to Fox management to get Alan dumped.

Still, Alan appeared as a guest commentator, appearing with Bill O'Reilly and other Fox personalities. He also had a very successful radio show during the daytime, mostly taking calls from idiotic listeners. If someone said something inappropriate, Alan would punch the phone button and say, "You're next! Hello!"

Personally, Alan was perhaps the kindest and most gracious friend I ever had. I never heard him curse or berate anyone. He didn't drink alcohol, smoke, or take drugs. And he was always, always funny. I once told him, "You're the most Christian Jew I know." He didn't know how to respond to that, but then he said, "Thank you I think."

eran I mentioned above and assisted his father, Thomas Mendiola, care for the Mochong Latte Stone site on their family land and many others here on Rota for decades before you even knew the meaning and importance of cultural sites.

My son was embarrassed, hurt, ashamed, traumatized for having upset you and people like you and reluctant to show his face in school. I had to nurse him all night from the psychological and emotional scar caused by your disrespectful and shameful behavior at the hearing. If that is the result you were hoping for, then you successfully accomplished your mission, soldier! The honorable thing would be to apologize to him in front of the same crowd. I guess time will tell just how much "honor" you, who has been to many national parks, have left in your soul! *Tai respectu! Tai mamahlao dimasiao!*

To the National Parks Services, I pray that you will in the future better conduct these types of hearings in keeping them orderly, civil and not allow your supporters to intimidate children, like my son, who garnered admirable courage to express their belief in a respectful manner. He only sought to communicate his devotion to his island's cultural sites but was instead silenced and left unable to finish his message. If you truly were interested in the views of the future generation, you would have led by example and afforded him his right to speak.

Gina Sasakura

Rota

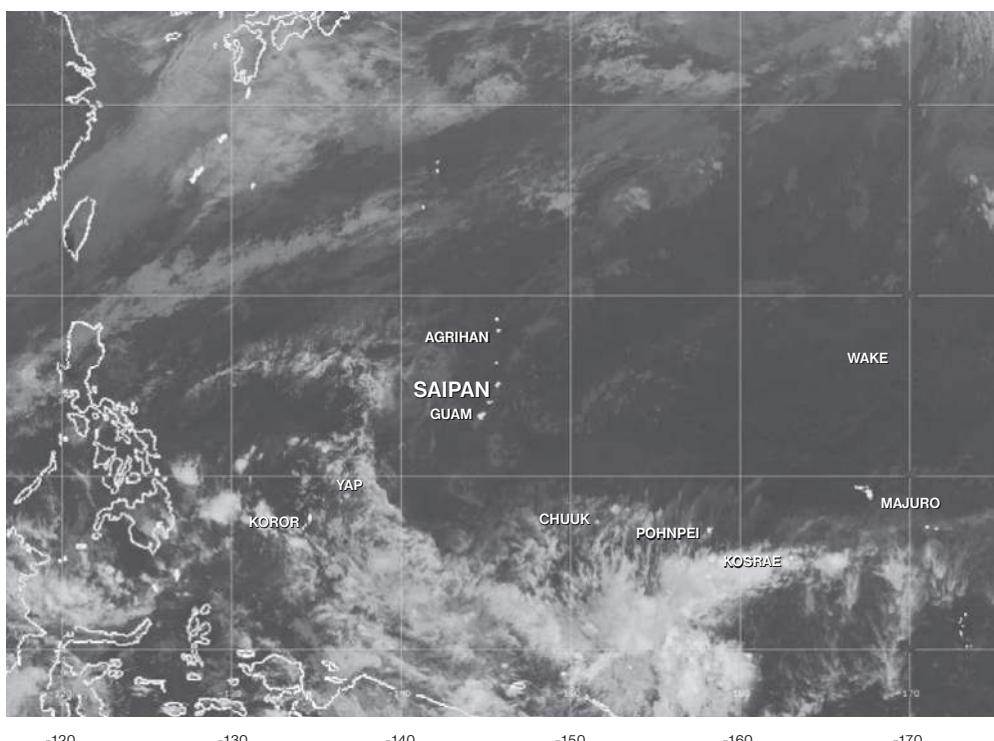
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 88°	▼ 78°	▲ 88°	▼ 78°	▲ 88°	▼ 78°	▲ 87°	▼ 77°	▲ 87°	▼ 77°
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YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:00 AM, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Isolated showers and moderate to fresh trade winds persist across the Marianas waters. The buoys are reporting 5-8 ft seas. Little change is likely the next few days.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	84	77	°F
Palau	Partly cloudy	85	78	°F
Yap	Thunderstorms	86	72	°F
Chuuk	Windy	86	79	°F
Pohnpei	Scattered showers	85	78	°F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	84	80	°F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	83	79	°F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
2:53 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.1
9:14 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.02
3:20 PM	LOW TIDE	0.59
8:53 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.98

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:35 AM	6:24 PM
Tuesday	6:35 AM	6:24 PM
Wednesday	6:34 AM	6:24 PM
Thursday	6:33 AM	6:24 PM
Friday	6:33 AM	6:25 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:52 AM	7:00 PM	-
Tuesday	7:38 AM	7:56 PM	-
Wednesday	8:23 AM	8:53 PM	-
Thursday	9:10 AM	9:50 PM	-
Friday	9:58 AM	10:49 PM	-

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF FEBRUARY 10, 2017

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:10pm	7:05pm	Daily	DL298	10:20am	2:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily	LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	ZE581	10:15am	3:35pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily	TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily	OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
ZE582	4:25pm	8:35pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7	7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5	7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4
SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)				JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN			
7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7	7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	5:40am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:50am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Family grief support group meeting

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding its monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, March 2, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai. We offer understanding and hope to parents, siblings and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause. We provide a safe, confidential setting, in which to share our experiences, while respecting and supporting each other, and listening. We have "been there." We do not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology. There is no "right way" to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, and Saipan offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, e-mail tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Jill Derickson (989-9821) or Donna Krum (783-1900). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionate-friends.org. (PR)

CONGRATULATIONS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to our dear Arline Victoria Arbolado for passing the U.S. CPA exams! We are extremely proud of your achievement. Your life is a testimony of God's favor coupled with hard work and determination. Continue to inspire the CYNs. God bless you and your family. We love you! Greetings come from JIL Saipan/Tinian/Guam/Washington.

Tinian re-opens public market

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas officially opened the new Tinian Public Market open in a ribbon cutting held at the newly renovated facility near the Port of Tinian last Friday.

In attendance were Senate President Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan), Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Richard Seman, elected Tinian leaders, Saipan Farmer's Market chair R.B. Camacho, as well as a host of Tinian farmers who are ready to market their produce.

The Tinian Public Market will be providing meat slicing and meat chilling services as well.

"We have two meat slicers and are working on rehabilitating the two walk-in chillers," said TPM manager Joe Borja. "We will have hours for our ranchers to come in and request for the slicing of their frozen meat. We are looking forward to restarting operations."

On Friday, on display at the market were radishes, tangerines, bananas, lettuce, tomatoes, eggplants, pumpkins, green onions, soursop, and pomelo, to name a few.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Sen. Steve Mesngon, Sen. Francisco M. Borja, Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios, Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas, Municipal Council chair Antonio SN. Borja, Joe Borja of the Tinian Public Market, Municipal Council vice chair Edwin M. Hofschneider, Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Richard Seman, Tinian DLNR resident department head Guillermo Borja, and Fr. Rey Rosal

Tinian mayor chief of staff Allen Perez, a backyard farmer

himself, said the market is intended to entice Tinian residents

to go back to farming, not just as a hobby but also as a career.

"There are dozens of Tinian residents who have...agriculture lots. It is our hope that they will go back to farming on their lots and market their produce to our community. With our relationship with the Saipan Farmer's Market we hope to ship and sell Tinian produce [on] Saipan," said San Nicolas.

San Nicolas thanked the Tinian Legislative Delegation for appropriating \$40,000 to the operation of the market and for the \$75,000 appropriation for a new tractor for the DLNR.

In his closing remarks, Tinian Municipal Council chair Antonio SN. Borja said the market will also provide access to healthy foods for the *manhoben* (youth) and *man'amko* (elderly). (PR)

Saipan Chamber seeks to raise funds with golf tourney

This year's annual Saipan Chamber of Commerce 2017 Golf Tournament is looking to bring back some fun to the golf course. We encourage players of all skill levels and talents to join this tournament. Men and women golfers are sure to have a beautiful day on LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort west course with holes sponsored by Chamber members. A banquet will immediately follow the close of the tournament. The show time is 6am on March 4, 2017, with a shotgun start at 7am.

The format is a two-person scramble. The entry fee is \$120/non-member and \$110/Chamber member. Cash priz-

es include first place, \$800; second place, \$500; and third place, \$300 for each of the two categories: Team gross and Team double peoria. There will also be closest-to-the-pin, longest drive, and accurate drive contests. Triple J Motors will sponsor a hole-in-one prize of a 2017 Mazda 6. Three hole-in-one opportunities of \$5,000 each are offered by Pacifica Insurance, McDonald's Saipan, and the Chamber's Saipan Young Professionals.

Funds raised by the tournament and raffle will support the Chamber's scholarship program, monthly training seminars, and other communi-

ty based projects. Among the activities offered in 2016 were:

- Chamber scholarships:
 - four \$2,000 scholarships to high school seniors,
 - one \$2,000 scholarship to an NMC college student
 - one \$2,000 scholarship to an NMTI student.

■ 2016 Business and Finance Conference hosted with the Bank of Guam and the Commonwealth Development Authority

■ A Labor Visa Symposium to increase awareness of the options available for employee visas.

Fabulous raffle prizes have been donated, and tickets will be available for pur-

chase during the awards banquet at the end of the tournament. Sponsorships and raffle prizes are currently being collected and we expect this will be the most exciting event yet. Registration forms for players are available for download at www.saipanchamber.com, at the Chamber office, and LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort.

The Chamber is pleased to have the support of its generous members and looks forward to offering new programs to enhance the business community on Saipan in the upcoming year. (SCC)

UOG Theater presents: *The Crucible*

The University of Guam Fine Arts Theater opens spring 2017 with the gripping and moving American drama, *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller at the UOG Fine Arts Theatre.

Set during the Salem witch trials in colonial Massachusetts in 1692, Miller's play was at the time a thinly-veiled criticism of McCarthyism. Watch how the town of Salem is torn apart when a group of hysterical teenagers inflict damage with their unfounded rumors and accusations.

Evening performances are at 7pm from Thursday to Saturday, March 2-4. (UOG)



MVA

DOG CONTROL PROGRAM
Saipan Mayor David Apatang receives a \$4,710 donation on Feb. 15, 2017, at the Marianas Visitors Authority office for the dog control program. The funds were raised from proceeds of the Marianas Sunset Fun Run in January 2017 and matched by the MVA. Pictured from left are MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas, Apatang, MVA deputy managing director Judy Torres, and Animal Control Program director Spencer Marchadesch.

Marine biology outreach seeks to inspire youth



Sea Grant fellow Valeri Lapacek, right, chats with a mentor next to a touch tank with starfish, sea cucumbers, and corals.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Feb. 4 was a busy day for Valeri Lapacek.

A University of Guam master of science in Biology candidate and University of Guam Sea Grant fellow, Lapacek was hosting a community outreach called "A Day in the Life of a Marine Biologist."

During the outreach, Lapacek taught kids about what marine biologists do, shared her excitement about the ocean and its inhabitants, and educated them about the importance of corals.

"I am trying to spark passion and excitement in the participants for coral reefs. In order to increase conservation and protection, people must care about the environment," said Lapacek. "If you don't find it exciting or you

don't know much about the ocean, why would you want to protect it?"

Sea Grant fellows—UOG graduate students receiving funds to support their research—must design and implement outreach activities as part of their proposed work plans.

The five-hour "Day in the Life" at UOG's Marine Lab included tasks that a marine biologist may perform regularly. Youth participants, ages 7 to 15 years old, observed jellyfish, sea cucumbers, and starfish in touch tanks, practicing survey techniques used to describe and monitor organisms. They also spent a few hours doing lab work.

"At one station, kids were able to dissect a coral polyp

and examine its eggs—all while looking through a microscope. The other station allowed kids to grind up coral tissue into a slurry, make a microscope slide, and use a microscope to look for tiny algae cells that live in coral tissue," said Lapacek.

The coral tissue lab stations were particularly important to Lapacek, who researches the reproductive biology of Guam's staghorn *Acropora* coral. She examines how coral health impacts, such as bleaching events, impact the staghorn coral's ability to reproduce efficiently.

Community collaboration
"A Day in the Life of a Marine Biologist" was a collaboration between Sea Grant's



Participants examine an otolith, or a bone-like structure from fish ears, under a microscope with help from Sea Grant Turtle Education Outreach intern Marcel Jardeleza.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Turtle Education Outreach Interns, informally known as "T-Squad," Sea Grant faculty Marie Auyong, and Big Brothers Big Sisters Guam.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Guam is a nonprofit agency that matches children ("Littles") facing adversity with adult "Big" brothers or sisters. The organization also manages an AmeriCorps cohort of volunteers based at school and community sites.

"In a nutshell, we match volunteer role models with youth for a one-to-one mentoring relationship. We provide case management support for the matches and we plan regular enrichment activities for the program participants," says BBSG executive director Vanessa Estella.

Lapacek chose to work with this organization for a few specific reasons.

"First, I was able to target two audiences: kids, and young adults. Secondly, the BBSG pairs had to work together as a team to complete the tasks, since most of the activities were challenging," said Lapacek.

The importance of this outreach event resounded heavily with T-squad interns and BBSG volunteers.

"Outreaches like these that expose youth to different careers could allow them to start developing dreams and start thinking about the kind of future they could have someday," said T-squad intern and junior biology major Marcel Jardeleza. "This event was the definition of 'bringing science to the people.'"

BBSG AmeriCorps volunteer Domini Prudente said, "Kids experienced a new world of creatures that piqued their curiosity. This event also allowed them to experience socializing with intellectuals



Participants look for the ink pen of a squid.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



An aspiring diver tries on marine biologist gear.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

and make new friends through the event."

For more information about Sea Grant fellows or how to

design science-based community education events, contact Marie Auyong at auyongm@triton.uog.edu. (UOG)

Interior remits \$231.5 M rum taxes to USVI

WASHINGTON, D.C.—

Acting Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Nikolao Pula has approved an adjustment payment of \$18,173,711 million to the U.S. Virgin Islands government for fiscal year 2016 rum excise tax actuals. The amount has been certified by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and represents the final rum excise tax payment owed to the U.S. Virgin Islands for the 2016 fiscal year.

"We recognize these funds are critical to government operations in the USVI and

are working closely with Gov. Kenneth Mapp and his staff to ensure the funds are transferred as quickly as possible," said Pula.

Adjustments are calculated based upon amounts advanced from rum excise taxes derived from the USVI and collected by the federal government under the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands (48 USC 1541).

Under current law, any excise tax collected on USVI manufactured rum imported into the United States is transferred to or

"covered-over" to the USVI. The USVI government submits its advance estimate of rum excise taxes to the Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs on an annual basis so that payment can be made in September of each fiscal year.

The initial 2016 advance of \$213,325,000 was paid in September 2015. The actual taxes certified for 2016 totaled \$231,498,711. An advance payment of \$202,725,000 to the USVI was made in September 2016 for 2017 rum excise taxes. (OIA)

2017 Miss Pusong Pinoy



The Pusong Pinoy Teen contestants line up for their introduction.
MACKENZIE PEREZ



Clarice Canarejo makes her final walk as 2016's Miss Teen Pusong Pinoy.
MACKENZIE PEREZ



Second runner-up Miss Teen Pusong Pinoy Erica Faye Tubera sings two songs.
MACKENZIE PEREZ



Chloe Hazel Anne Salvosa is awarded Best in Evening Gown.
MACKENZIE PEREZ



The Philippine's honorary consul to the CNMI Eli Arago.
MACKENZIE PEREZ



The top three contestants with the rest of the candidates.
MACKENZIE PEREZ



Katrina Guevarra takes home Star of the Night award.
MACKENZIE PEREZ



Special number by Saipan Music and Dance Studio.
MACKENZIE PEREZ

Health & Fitness

CrossFit workout fad powers its way into school PE classes

By JOHN KEILMAN
CHICAGO TRIBUNE/TNS

The most popular PE class at Waukegan High School takes place in a basement field house that has the ambience of a dungeon. Sweating is assured. Vomiting is not unusual.

Students do a five-minute group burpee ladder activity at the end of Greg Moisio's cross fit physical education class on Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016 at Waukegan High School in Waukegan, Ill. JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE/TNS



A healthy, active lifestyle

The benefits of a healthy, active lifestyle can be classified as either:



SOCIAL: You have all the basics necessities of life: family, friends, food, a home, and a role in society.



MENTAL: You feel good about yourself, your emotions are under control, and you do not feel stressed.



PHYSICAL: All the body systems are working well and you have no illness or injury.



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This advertisement is sponsored by
Tan Siu Lin Foundation

It's the school's version of CrossFit, the intense and trendy exercise regimen that has exploded in popularity over the last 16 years, spawning thousands of gyms, more than 1 million devotees and a professional competition broadcast on ESPN.

Schools around the Chicago area have adopted CrossFit to stir student interest at a time of rising youth obesity, and some say it's reaching children left cold by traditional gym classes.

"I think it's a great way to teach kids lifelong fitness, especially those kids who aren't interested in hockey or soccer or basketball," said teacher Tracy Haraf of Alsip's Stony Creek Elementary, which devotes half of its PE days to CrossFit exercises. "They think it's tough, but I think they have a lot of fun doing it."

But some doctors and researchers advise caution, saying the weightlifting-oriented workouts can lead to injuries, particularly when performed by the inexperienced. CrossFit Inc., the company that certifies trainers and licenses gyms, has fired back at that assessment, and the controversy is playing out in a pair of vitriolic lawsuits.

Yet gym teachers like Waukegan's Greg Moisio, whose two-campus school has about 650 kids taking CrossFit each day, say the risk of injury can be curbed with proper supervision and CrossFit's inherent flexibility.

Moisio pointed to a workout called "Death by Burpees," where every 1 minute and 20 seconds, students run a lap and perform an escalating number of burpees—a movement involving a squat, a pushup and a leap with hands held above the head. The challenge is to keep going as long as you can.

"That's the great thing, because something like running the mile, the worst kid is always last," Moisio said. "Everybody knows who's last; that's a terrible feeling for a kid. Now, the last person is the best, and no one knows who dropped out in round three because they're too worried about trying to get their own butt around the (track)."

CrossFit bills itself as a pathway to all-around fitness, including strength, flexibility and endurance. It combines weightlifting with calisthenics and cardio work to create high-intensity workouts, often named for fallen members of the American military.

It also makes a priority of recording a participant's results and observing how they change over time—a practice that aligns perfectly with evermore data-driven school curricula.

"(Administrators) love that data," Moisio said. "I can give these guys enough data to choke on about student growth."

Waukegan appears to be the local pioneer for PE CrossFit. Moisio incorporated some of the exercises in 2008, then became a full-fledged CrossFit provider in 2010 after taking two training sessions.

Since then, the demand has grown so much that CrossFit classes are held every period (the school still offers conventional PE too). Senior Alexus Wiltz, 18, said the conditioning has improved her performance on the basketball court.

"I noticed I was faster, I paid more attention on the court, my defending was better," she said after a recent class. "It just really helped me."

The workout she and her classmates performed that day was relatively simple, using kettlebells, box jumps and burpees, but Moisio said the class also includes weightlifting exercises such as squats and deadlifts.

That's the part that concerns observers like Dr. Craig Finlayson, an orthopedic surgeon at Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. While strength training is fine for kids, he said, heavy weights can be trouble for teens who might hurt themselves by trying to do too much or using poor form.

"You've got some kids who are not fully developed," Finlayson said. "Put them in a competitive environment, doing exercises that may or may not lead to injury—might not be the best idea."

Life & Style

Song and dance, protest and politics to mingle at Oscars

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The 89th Academy Awards show promises to be equal parts pomp and politics.

The only thing expected to take the stage more often than the frothy front-runner “La La Land” at Sunday’s ceremony is protest (and probably some punchlines) over the policies of President Donald Trump. For largely liberal Hollywood, his election has proven a rallying cause-célébre throughout an awards season that has otherwise been a parade of honors for Damien Chazelle’s celebrated musical.

Just how political things are going to get at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles may be the biggest question of Sunday night’s show, to be broadcast by ABC beginning at 8:30 p.m. EST, with red carpet coverage starting earlier. The current forecast for Sunday is only a slight chance of rain, though the inside of the Dolby Theatre is expected to be far stormier.

Even the usually glitzy lead-up to Sunday’s show has taken on the form of a gathering tempest. On Friday, the United Talent Agency, forgoing its usual Oscar party, instead held a rally over immigration. “We will not tolerate chaos and ineptitude and war-mongering,” Jodie Foster told attendees.

More strikingly, the six directors of the foreign film nominees on Friday released a joint statement condemning “the climate of fanaticism and nationalism we see today in the U.S. and in so many other countries, in parts of the population and, most unfortunately of all, among leading politicians.”

The signees included the Iranian director Asghar Farhadi, whose “The Salesman” is favored to win him his second foreign language Oscar. He isn’t attending the awards out of protest for Trump’s proposed travel ban from seven predominantly Muslim nations, including Iran.

On Friday, he posted a vid-



AP
This March 2, 2014 file photo shows Oscar statues lined up backstage during the Oscars in Los Angeles. The 89th Academy Awards will be held on Sunday.

eo thanking the Hollywood community for its support of his Oscar boycott. In it, Farhadi condemned Trump’s policies and said they are “trying to promote hate.”

And sure to stoke the rhetoric at Sunday’s Oscars is news this weekend that U.S. immigration authorities are barring entry to a 21-year-old Syrian cinematographer who worked on the documentary short nominee “The White Helmets,” about the nation’s civil war. Meanwhile, about 20 Trump supporters gathered Saturday at an intersection near the Dolby Theatre on Hollywood Boulevard. One held a sign with Trump’s signature slogan, “Make America Great Again,” while another sign asked motorists to honk if they supported Trump. There were few honks.

Some Trump supporters are calling for a boycott of the

broadcast, expecting more speeches like Meryl Streep’s fiery remarks at the Globes—which prompted Trump to call her “overrated.” (The Academy of Motion Pictures on Friday added Streep, also a nominee, to its presenters.) But similar so-called boycotts have also trailed the Broadway sensation “Hamilton” and 2016’s top box-office hit, the “Star Wars” spinoff “Rogue One.”

ABC would be very happy with similar results, especially after last year’s telecast, hosted by Chris Rock, drew 34.4 million viewers, an eight-year low. Ads this year are still going for \$2.1 million for 30-second spots.

Host Jimmy Kimmel will have a delicate balance on his hands. Play it too light and he’ll appear out of sync with the mood. Hammer too hard and he’ll alienate viewers already inundated by politics.

“Moonlight” won for its directing, screenplay, cinematography and editing. It was also honored for its ensemble cast in the Spirit Awards’ Robert Altman Award. Backstage, Jenkins said its tale of a poor, young, black kid in Miami stood in stark contrast to President Donald Trump’s adminis-

tration.

“I think ‘Moonlight’ exists as a beacon of inclusivity,” said Jenkins, flanked by his African-American cast and producers.

The afternoon ceremony frequently had a strong political tenor. Casey Affleck, who won best actor for “Manchester by the Sea,” wore a shirt with the word “love” in Arabic.

‘Moonlight’ sweeps Spirit Awards; Affleck wins best actor

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—Sunday might be dominated by “La La Land,” but Saturday belonged to “Moonlight.”

Barry Jenkins’ luminous coming-of-age tale swept Saturday’s Film Independent Spirit Awards, taking home six awards including best feature. “Moonlight” won every award it was nominated for at the 32nd annual indie awards,

In Loving Memory of

John Sullivan Benavente

MAY 6, 1969 – FEBRUARY 22, 2017

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Parents: + Luis & Katherine Benavente
Wife: Sepe J. Benavente
Children: Sierra, John Jr., Jonsie, Serena, & Luisa Marie
Brothers, Sisters/Spouses:
 Richard Benavente & Children
 Agatha B. & David DL Guerrero & Children
 Jeffrey & Heather Benavente & Children
 Rita Jenny B. & Paul Igisomar & Children
 Trinidad S. Benavente & Children
 Jacky Lou B. Pestillo
 Michael R. Benavente

Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2017. Viewing will begin at 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. followed by Christian service at the Borja Funeral Home in Chalan Kanoa (adjacent to Bank of Saipan). Interment will be at Tanapag Cemetery where he will be laid to eternal rest.

Lunch will be served at Tanapag Social Hall after the Interment service.

Your thoughts, prayers, support and words of comfort are sincerely appreciated.

THE FAMILY

'Hillary's America,' 'Batman v Superman' top Razzies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Neither Batman nor Dinesh D'Souza could finagle their way out of a Razzie.

The annual Golden Raspberry Awards bestowed a tying four "honors" to both D'Souza's documentary "Hillary's America: The Secret History of the Democratic Party" and the superhero blockbuster "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice."

D'Souza's film was named the worst picture of the year on Saturday, and the conservative author got both worst di-

rector (with co-director Bruce Schooley) and worst actor for playing himself. Worst actress went to Rebekah Turner who played Hillary Clinton.

"This is absolutely fantastic," said D'Souza in a video statement. "My audience loves the fact that you hate me. Thank you."

Not to be outdone, Zack Snyder's \$250 million "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" also picked up four "wins" including worst remake, worst screenplay and worst screen combo for its

dueling stars Ben Affleck and Henry Cavill. Jesse Eisenberg was also singled out as the worst supporting actor for his over-the-top portrayal of Superman baddie Lex Luthor.

Both films were widely panned by critics upon their release—D'Souza's film for being biased and sensationalist and Snyder's for its messiness. While D'Souza's outing is likely a one-time deal, there is more to come in the DC Comic Book Universe from Snyder whose "Justice

League" hits theaters in Nov.

Another poorly received film, "Zoolander 2," got away with only one award, which went to Kristen Wiig for worst supporting actress.

The organization also bestowed the "redeemer" award to Mel Gibson, who was previously nominated for "The Expendables 3" and this year has climbed back up to the ranks to more prestigious awards. Gibson is nominated for a best director Oscar for his World War II film "Hack-

saw Ridge."

The Razzie Awards are determined by around 1,000 voting Razzie members from 25

countries, while Worst Screen Combo was voted on by "thousands" through a Rotten Tomatoes partnership.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Academy revokes '13 Hours' sound mixer's Oscar nomination

LOS ANGELES (AP)—One day before the Oscars, the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences has voted to rescind the sound mixing nomination for Greg P. Russell for his work on "13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi."

The decision, announced Saturday, was due to Russell's violation of Academy campaign regulations. The statement says Russell violated strict rules applied to telephone lobbying. Academy President Cheryl Boone Isaacs

said in a statement that they take "very seriously the Oscars voting process." "13 Hours" is still eligible for the award, but only for mixers Gary Summers, Jeffrey J. Haboush and Mac Ruth. At the Oscars on Sunday, the "13 Hours" crew is competing against the sound mixing team from "Arrival," "Hacksaw Ridge," "La La Land" and "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story."

The Committee to Protect Journalists condemned the move by the White House, and it marked another sign of struggle between news media and President Donald Trump.

On Friday, Trump said reporters shouldn't be allowed to use anonymous sources. He has chafed at a number of anonymously sourced stories, including numerous reports describing contacts between his campaign advisers and Russian intelligence agents, which the White House has sharply disputed.

unveiled its final batch of presenters, including Streep. The actress is also a nominee for a record 20th time. She's up for best actress for her performance in "Florence Foster Jenkins." In her speech at the Golden Globes last month, Streep drew a loud standing ovation for a speech that bluntly criticized Trump. She particularly voiced disgust for his mocking of The New York Times' Serge Kovaleski, a disabled reporter.

Trump says he won't attend correspondents dinner this spring

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump, who has been criticizing the news media and is famously thin-skinned, says he won't be attending the White House Correspondents' Association dinner—sparing himself the dubious honor of being an in-the-house target of jokes.

The annual fundraiser for college scholarships and venue for reporting awards mixes politicians, journalists and celebrities and is typically attended by the president and first lady. Remarks by a comedian, often roasting the president, and a humorous address by the president himself, often roasting the press and political opponents, have highlighted the event, which C-SPAN has carried live. Trump has long had an adversarial relationship with news media.

New York Times to broadcast 'truth' ad during Academy Awards

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Times will broadcast a commercial called "The Truth Is Hard" during Sunday's Academy Awards, just days after the company and other news organizations were blocked from

joining an informal, on-the-record White House press briefing.

The 30-second ad includes audio from voices in the vein of news clips, talking about certain "truths," from "the truth is our nation is more di-

vided than ever" to "the truth is the media is dishonest." It is the first television advertising from the Times since 2010 and its first brand-focused television ad in a decade.

The ad closes with: "The truth is hard. The truth is hard

to find. The truth is hard to know. The truth is more important now than ever."

The clip, also posted on the Times' official YouTube page, has more than 1.5 million views since it premiered Thursday.

Its airdate on ABC during the Oscars comes two days after the Times, the Los Angeles Times, CNN and other news organizations were blocked from a White House briefing after press secretary Sean Spicer restricted the number of journalists who could attend.

The Committee to Protect Journalists condemned the move by the White House, and it marked another sign of struggle between news media and President Donald Trump.

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ON BROADWAY

In this April 7, 2016 file photo, President Barack Obama and his daughter Malia walk across the South Lawn of the White House in Washington before boarding Marine One helicopter for the short flight to Andrews Air Force Base. Obama and Malia have caught a new revival of Arthur Miller's "The Price." They attended the play starring Danny DeVito, John Turturro, Tony Shalhoub and Jessica Hecht at the American Airlines Theatre on Friday, Feb. 24, 2017, in New York.

New mom returning to work wants to find right day care

DEAR ABBY: I am a new mom to a sweet baby boy. I am (or was) very career-oriented and never in a million years thought I would want to be a stay-at-home mom. I will have to return to work shortly, and I'm really struggling.

I have a hard time putting my little one in day care, but I don't have a choice. I have no idea where to begin, how to select the right day care or what questions to ask. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

NEW MOM IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR NEW MOM: Start by talking to your friends and family, asking if they know of a day care that's good, then make sure that any facility you're considering is licensed. Spend a little time there to see how the caregivers interact with the children.

Go to babycenter.com and search on "daycare." You will find a section on day care centers that will give you the information you need. You should also check with your state's department of social services to be sure no complaints have been filed. I wish you luck in your search.

DEAR ABBY: Over the years the people closest to me (immediate family, friends and a few ex-boyfriends) have given me every reason not to trust anyone much.

About a year ago I found the courage to date again and met a man who gives me every reason to trust him to the fullest. The problem is, because of my past, I'm having problems doing it. How do I move past my issues and give the relationship I'm in a fair chance before I destroy it?

GUN-SHY IN MAINE

DEAR GUN-SHY: Considering your history, it makes sense that you are afraid of being hurt or taken advantage of. However, not all people are alike. Allow the relationship more time to develop. Don't be afraid to talk things out with him rather than react by jumping to conclusions and/or making accusations.

Listen to what he says and watch what he does. If the two don't match, regard it as a red flag. However, if they do match, then count your blessings because you may have finally found a winner.

DEAR ABBY: For years I've gone to a neighborhood bar every Friday night for a few hours during cocktail hour. I have recently started using oxygen due to COPD from smoking.

My doctor says I can do anything I feel I'm up to. Well, I'm up to going out to the bar like I used to do. Trouble is, I'm self-conscious about the carrier. It doesn't bother me to go out to

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



stores, etc., but this does. Should I stay home, bored out of my mind, or get on with the life I used to have?

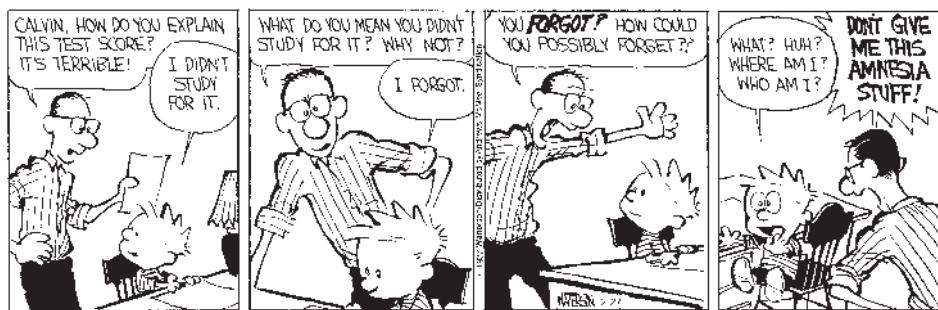
WANTS TO GET ON WITH LIFE

DEAR WANTS: Your doctor has said you can do what you want. I see nothing to be gained by sitting home alone and becoming depressed. My only concern is that the bar you frequent may be smoky and be problematic for your already-damaged lungs. If the bar is smoke-free, go. But if it isn't, then I'm suggesting you find one that is.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

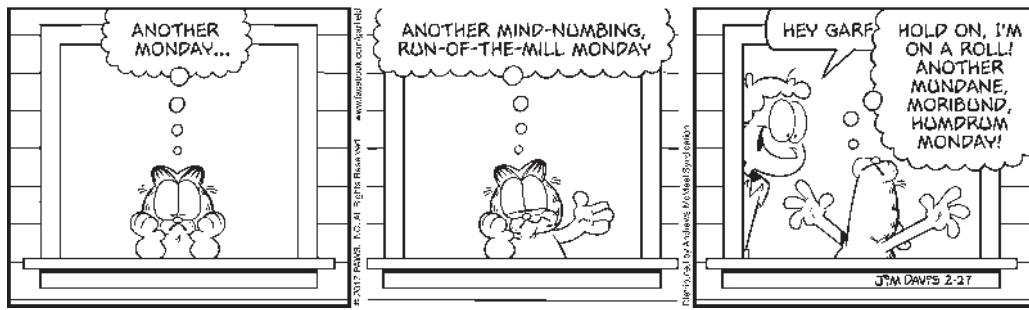
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



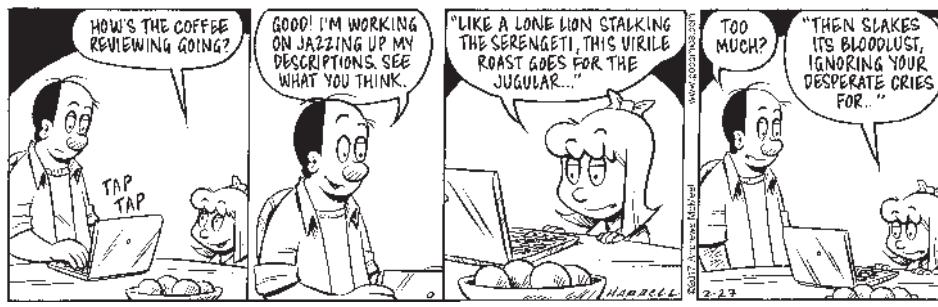
By Bill Watterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	35 Job-safety org.	56 Conclude postings	11 LAX
1 Frogs' hangout	57 Undo a dele	17 Numerical prefix	
5 Doubtfire	37 Birth-place, usually	19 Composer	
or Dalloway	39 Ambulance VIP	Porter	
8 Competent	41 Rid of rind	22 Winning	24 — Paulo
12 "Zip—Doo-Dah"	42 Friends in battle	25 Storefront	26 Corporate
13 Charged bit	45 Arizona native	sign abbr.	levels
14 Satiate	49 Forest	27 Insisted	28
15 Dweeb	51 Isaac's eldest	on	Corporate
16 Balmoral Castle site	52 Has	29 Capitol	levels
18 Chronic complainer	53 "A pox upon thee!"	Hill VIP	27
20 Knee supports	54 Disen-cumbers	30 Vintage	Insisted
21 Crooner Perry	55 For fear that	33 Antitoxins	on
23 Annoy		36 In the thick of	29
24 Breed of pony		38 Crowbars	Corporate
28 Canadian gas brand		40 — Aviv	levels
31 Lob's path		42 MP's quarry	27
32 — Park, Colorado		43 Actor	Insisted
34 Slithery fish		Rob	on
		44 Ump's call	29
		46 "Be that — may ..."	Corporate
		47 Green gem	levels
		48 Evict	27
		50 French diarist	Insisted
		Anais	on

Solution time: 26 mins.



Friday's answer 2-27

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Josh Groban, 36; Rozonda "Chilli" Thomas, 46; Donald Logue, 51; Howard Hesseman, 77.

Happy Birthday: Take life in stride. Live in the moment. Give yourself a chance to use your imagination and designate time to the projects, pastimes and people that make you feel passionate. Don't limit what you can do. Freedom comes from allowing yourself to experience your heart's desires. Use your insight and perception to discover your potential. Your numbers are 2, 13, 18, 22, 26, 38, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Put the past behind you and learn to live in the moment. Don't give in to anger, revenge or worries that will pass if you are grateful for what you have. True change begins within. **★★★**

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Get involved and be a participant. If you don't try to change your life, you cannot complain. Your voice will be heard if you are passionate about what you say and want. Join forces with like-minded people. Use intelligence instead of force. **★★★★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Decide what you are going to do next, but don't share just yet. The element of surprise will give you the edge you need. Someone with less integrity could steal your idea or take credit for your work if you are too vocal. **★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Do your best and don't worry about what others are up to. Stay focused on what you have to contribute and how you can customize or make

whatever you do your own. Meetings, business trips and partnerships look inviting. **★★★★★**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Prospects look good if you are diligent. Show off what you have to offer and you will attract someone who you would like to work with. Expect to face criticism from someone jealous of your talents. **★★★**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Share your thoughts and ideas with people who show interest. A partnership will enable you to achieve your personal dreams. Your creative imagination, insight and astute vision of what's going on around you will bring good results. **★★★**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Be prepared to deal with anyone who is trying to block your path. Know what you want and don't back down. Work on making progress once you have completed your preparations. Trust in your ability to do things yourself. Celebrate your victory. **★★★**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Expand your horizons and indulge in unfamiliar events that will engage your mind and prompt you to take on new challenges. Express your thoughts and utilize your skills, and you will improve your home and personal life. **★★★★★**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep outsiders at a distance. Stay focused on home and family matters that directly concern your living arrangements and ability to make money. Emotional deception will surface if you are too revealing or open about your personal affairs. **★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Do your best and don't worry about what others are up to. Stay focused on what you have to contribute and how you can customize or make

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



COURTESY 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Remembering the past will provide clarity to a situation you face now. Question what others do and don't feel the need to follow a path led by someone impulsive or unpredictable. Put pressure on yourself to achieve excellence. **★★★★**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Reconnect with people you have collaborated with in the past and you will discover a new opportunity. Personal changes will bring you greater confidence, encouraging you to bring about the changes that will make you happy. Romance is highlighted. **★★★**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take pride in living your dream. Feel free to engage in what makes you happy. Don't give in to fear or controversy. Make waves and you'll make a difference. Be willing to go the distance. **★★**

Birthday Baby: You are creative, inspirational and giving. You are unique and appealing.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com. Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

8		5	4					
6	5	8		2				
7			1	3	5	8		
2					5			
3	1	6	8	7				
8					3			
7	1	5	4	6	7	1		
6		9		2	7			
2						4		

Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

1	6	4	3	7	2	9	8	5
9	3	5	8	1	6	7	4	2
8	2	7	4	5	9	3	1	6
4	8	2	9	3	5	6	7	1
3	1	9	6	8	7	5	2	4
7	5	6	1	2	4	8	9	3
6	7	1	2	9	3	4	5	8
2	9	3	5	4	8	1	6	7
5	4	8	7	6	1	2	3	9

Difficulty Level ★★★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle—horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

NOBU HOTEL LAS VEGAS

Solution: 12 letters

M	B	B	O	N	A	C	I	R	E	M	A	L	N	W
O	A	R	R	U	R	A	T	T	R	E	B	O	R	A
N	S	R	O	I	S	O	N	O	B	U	N	V	T	H
T	T	R	I	O	N	I	N	T	A	N	N	E	R	U
E	L	N	A	A	K	N	E	G	U	N	E	B	R	O
C	O	Y	A	S	H	S	E	D	U	C	A	E	A	L
R	R	E	E	R	E	W	S	N	R	H	E	L	O	O
I	A	R	N	Q	U	A	A	O	S	T	N	S	L	S
S	E	A	T	I	P	A	C	D	N	H	S	E	S	S
T	L	C	S	P	L	E	T	I	L	O	I	W	E	
O	T	R	I	T	N	E	S	S	P	I	J	B	K	U
A	O	A	O	T	O	B	C	S	E	D	N	D	C	M
B	N	B	R	P	A	L	A	C	E	R	S	E	O	E
E	A	A	G	A	M	E	S	E	I	N	N	O	R	S
R	L	U	X	U	R	I	O	U	S	D				

CLASSIFIED ADS



WHATZIT Solution: Bigwig

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15
• 5-Liner	\$24

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

TOUPEE

WHATZIT? © 2011 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

Find today's solution in classified section

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Househelper

Knowledge in cooking Chinese, Japanese, Thai, Cuisine is a must. Experienced in household chores like cleaning, ironing, gardening, paying bills, and baby sitting. With valid driver's license.

(1) Automotive Body Repairer

Atleast 5 yrs. working experience. Willing to work flexible time and dependable. Hardworking and trustworthy.

(2) Trash Collector

Atleast High School graduate. With valid driver's license. Needs to be physically fit and willing to work flexible time and must be hardworking.

Submit Applications To:
AYD SERVICES, INC.
Tel. # 235-7011

Leonora A. Blas

P.O. Box 7376 SVRB

Saipan, MP 96950

PROSE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE GUARDIANSHIP OF) FCD GU
Terry Dace Marie) CIVIL ACTION
Ayuyu Santos,) NO. 17-0073
and Jame Sanchez Santos,) NOTICE OF
Incompetent Persons) HEARING
)
By Leonora Aldan Blas)
)
Petitioner)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardianship for the above-named persons by Leonora Aldan Blas, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI before Kenneth L. Govendo on the 16th day of March, 2017 at 10:30am or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Painter Artist — Atleast 2 yrs. experience. Good level of physical fitness, including the ability to lift, work at heights. Have other building works related skills.

(1) Sales and Marketing Coordinator — Atleast 2 years work related experience. Highly motivated and goal oriented, with a confident, energetic, positive attitude.

Submit Applications To:
Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC.
Tel. 235-1680

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(4) ELECTRONIC TECHNICIANS

Must have at least 5 years work experience in telecommunication business. Knowledge and expertise in programming and repair of iDEN communication handsets. Must have experience in working on telecommunications field equipment and structures. Computer literate and must have good communication skills.

(1) SALES MANAGER
Must be a College graduate and has a minimum of 5 years experience in telecommunication business. Must have the knowledge in managing daily business operations, handling administrative, sales and treasury. Proficient in verbal and written communication skills. Computer literate and expertise in Microsoft Office applications.

(1) TELECOMMUNICATIONS
TECHNICIAN

Must have at least 5 years work experience in the telecommunications trade. Knowledge and expertise in analyzing engineering computer, RF systems and other iDEN telecom related equipment to maintain and improve current telecommunication system. Must have good communication skills.

** Interested applicants can send resume to:
Choice Radio, Inc. P.O. Box 501750,
Saipan, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Embroiderer

Must be able to do embroidery. Must be able to sew/embroider garments, using needles and thread or sewing machines. Assemble garment parts and join parts with basting stitches, using needles and thread or sewing machines. Program machine to be able to embroider a specific design. Knowledge of design techniques, tools, and principles involved in production of precision. Must have a 1-2 years experience in embroidery. Knowledgeable of principles and methods of Embroidery. Multi-tasking. Can work on longer hours. Good eyesight.

Qualified US Citizen applicants may send resume/bio-data at hr.islandapparel@gmail.com
No phone calls please.
Island Apparel
P.O. Box 502912, Saipan MP 96950

AQUAVILLE INC.

(1) Operation Manager
- Can Speak Korean, Chinese, and English
- At least 4 Years Experience in Managing
Marine Sports Activities
(1) Sales Advertising Agent
- At least 3 Years Experience

Contact Person: Adonis I. Santos
Contact Number: 323-0102

Auto Marine Incorporation

(2) Commercial Diver
- Can Speak Japanese and English
- At least 3 Years Experience in
Scuba Diving

Contact Person: Adonis I. Santos
Contact Number: 323-2916

Blue Star Corporation

(1) Tour Coordinator
• Can Speak Korean
and English
• At Least 3 Years Experience

MAC's Marine

(1) Maintenance Repairer
- Knowledgeable in Fiber Glassing
- At least 3 Years Experience
(2) Commercial Diver
- Can Speak Japanese and English
- At least 3 Years Experience in Scuba Diving

Contact Person: Adonis I. Santos
Contact Number: 322-6227

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) Barber/Beautician
One to Two years experience as Barber/Beautician. Knowledgeable in giving Hair Cut, Hair Colors, Hair High-lights.

Submit Applications To:
Pam Pacific Enterprises Corp.
Tel. 235-7270

share the power
of a wish

MAKE-A-WISH

Visit us at:
Make-A-Wish Guam
590 South Marine Corps Drive, ITC
Bldg, Suite 109
Tamuning, GU 969130507
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Email: info@guam.wish.org
www.guam.wish.org

 Alexander Incorporated
Alexander Building, Beach Road,
San Jose, Saipan MP 96950
For inquiries, please call 234-5117.

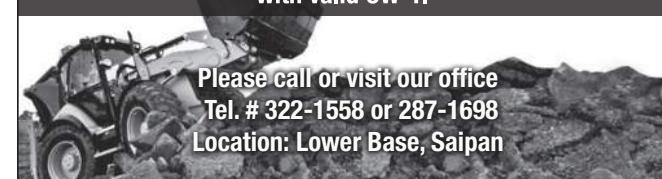
Share a Wish

Saipan Tribune

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

SUCCESS INTERNATIONAL CORP.
dba M & R Construction

Two (2) Heavy Equipment Operator
Can operate the ff: American truck, Backhoe,
Payloader, Excavator
US citizens preferred but will welcome workers
with valid CW-1.



Please call or visit our office
Tel. # 322-1558 or 287-1698
Location: Lower Base, Saipan

WANTED

ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL

Area of expertise to include one or more of the following - biology, geology, natural sciences, environmental engineer. BSc or higher. Seeking experienced, motivated professionals with project management experience. Salary commensurate with experience.

Email: opp17@yahoo.com

Customers First

TRIPLE J RESTAURANT GROUP

is now accepting applications for experienced:

- ASSISTANT CHEF
- ASSISTANT CHEF HELPER
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- SERVERS
- FRONT DESK CLERK
- HOUSEKEEPING PROFESSIONAL

No phone calls please, email resume to:
hrtjsaipan@triplejsaipan.com

*Triple J offers competitive benefits
and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

Century Finance Company, Ltd. is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following position:

General Accountant

Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 5 years of extensive work-experience as an Accountant in a financing or commercial/credit loan business. Must be proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO and Loan Management Information Systems, MS Excel, Word and PowerPoint software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Finance Company, Ltd. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan.

Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, **Tuesday, March 7, 2017.**

Century Finance Company, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd. inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following position:

SALES REPRESENTATIVE – HOTEL INDUSTRY & LUBRICANTS

A minimum of 3 years work related experience required with a successful Sales record. Preferably with an Associate's degree in Sales & Marketing. Sales experience with hotel, F&B, and restaurants together with knowledge of their inventory supply operations an advantage. Knowledge of petroleum lubricants a plus. Proven good track record in product marketing and excellent customer service is required. Must be proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word and Outlook. Must provide own reliable transport and must be able to meet monthly sales targets. Must be able to lift 50lbs. Extensive contacts in various businesses and industries an advantage. Available to work evenings, holidays or weekends as needed.

Interested applicants must submit an application and/or resume to our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by March 14, 2017. Applications may also be sent to: mpk@dandq-international.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

Century Travel Agency, Inc. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

TRAVEL AGENT

Plan and sell transportation and accommodations for travel agency customers. Determine destination, modes of transportation, travel dates, costs, and accommodations required. May also describe, plan, and arrange itineraries and sell tour packages. May assist in resolving clients' travel.

QUALIFICATION:

College graduate preferred with at least 5 years work-related experience in travel agencies. Proficient in the use of Amadeus system and other similar selling platforms. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Travel Agency, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan.

Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, **Tuesday, March 7, 2017.**

Century Travel Agency, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are welcome to apply.

BRIDGE CAPITAL, LLC JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(01) KHMER TRANSLATOR (Full-time)

Job Purpose:

Directly assists the company with translation coordination activities and engagement with internal and external resources to support projects in the Khmer PDR.

Duties:

- Translate various documents to and from Khmer to English for use in project management and litigation.
- Identify useful information in the documents and communicate that information to internal management.
- Sort mail.
- Type memos and envelopes.
- Prepare documents and packages for mail or shipping related to Lao projects.
- Scan, rename, and file Khmer documents on server.
- Performs other clerical and administrative duties, as needed

Skills/Qualifications:

- Must have fluency in Khmer and English.
- Previous translation experience is preferred.
- Excellent verbal/written communication skills.
- Great attention to detail.
- Competency with Microsoft Office required

No phone calls please. Interested applicants must submit resume to our Bridge Capital office on Micro Beach Rd, Garapan, or email to tania.mesa@bccnmi.com. Deadline to submit application will be Friday, March 3, 2017 at 4:00 pm.

Century Insurance Company, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Accountants (1)

Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Accounting with at least 5 years work-related experience in insurance financial management, payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivable, payable, and payroll management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, GENIISYS and MS Word and Excel software. Payroll accountant must possess experience in electronic processing of timesheets, allotments, and standard and government deductions. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

Claims Adjuster (1)

Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree. Preferably with at least 4 years of work experience in a non-life insurance company particularly in claims. Must also have knowledge in automotive damage adjusting and/or estimation. Must be hard working, self-motivated team player with excellent communication and time management skills. Computer literate on Microsoft Office and Oracle based system program. Ideal candidate should be able to evaluate, monitor and adjust claims in accordance with the Claims Processing and Settlement Procedures; attends directly to claimants and auto shops, and will work closely with agents on claims. Generates claims reports and statistics for reinsurance, inter-department and management info requirements.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, **Tuesday, March 7, 2017.**

Century Insurance Company, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Executive Assistants (2)

Key Functions: The Executive Assistant will help the Executive Officer and the President maintain organizational relationships and act as the main point of contact particularly for business partners and customers in and from China, as well as colleagues and peers in the local Chinese Community. The Executive Assistant should support the management of the President's time and calendar to ensure that the President is fully informed and prepared for all meetings with such stakeholders and to assist in organizing events. The Executive Assistant should be highly organized, able to multi-task and manage multiple time-sensitive demands, have exceptional inter-personal and communication skills and support the mission of the organization. This professional must possess a combination of strategic thinking skills and the demonstrated ability to implement and manage the daily logistical demands of a project centered staffs who work cross functionally to respond to the needs of the organization and its constituents.

Job Requirements: Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and/or Information Technology. With excellent English and Chinese communication skills both oral and written. Must possess experience in MS Office suite. One-year related experience in administrative type functions an advantage. Service-oriented, with strong organizational skills, active listening and active learning is required. Must be open to a variety of responsibilities, changing assignments, and be an overall team player.

Operations Manager (1)

Responsible in planning and implementation of the overall business direction of the company. Responsible for creating production and marketing plans and making sure these plans are implemented and targets are achieved accordingly.

Job Requirement: Graduate of a 4-year degree course and with a minimum of 6 years of professional progressive management experience and at least 4 years of general management experience in business operations. Must have experience in business operation reporting, contract negotiation with suppliers and service contractors including identifying new business opportunities. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives.

Building Cleaner (1)

High School Diploma or equivalent. Must have at least 3 years working experience. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Important qualities: detailed oriented, responsible. Interpersonal skills: Must get along well with people they provide services for and must be polite and friendly. Physical stamina: Must be able to spend many hours on their feet scrubbing, bending, stooping, and stretching and must be able to lift or move up to 50 pounds. Must be able to work flexible hours and days.

General Maintenance Workers (2)

High school diploma or GED certificate or any combination of education, training, and experience which demonstrates ability to perform carpentry, plumbing, glass replacement, painting, masonry, grounds keeping, appliance repair, and electrical wiring; standard practices and use a variety of hand and power tools used in the maintenance and repair of building facilities and cleaning and general maintenance work inside and outside facilities. Must be able to lift and move heavy supplies and objects, willing to work flexible hours which may include holidays and weekends.

IT - Network Administrator Assistant (1)

Associate's degree in any computer science, information technology or other related areas. At least 2 years of work related experience or equivalent training and skills in local and wide area networks management and administration. Must be Cisco Certified, with knowledge in system configuration, set up and troubleshooting for both hardware and software. Must have knowledge of Spiceworks. Can work flexible hours depending on demand.

Programmer Analyst (1)

Associate's degree in computer science or computer programming or information technology and at least 3 years of progressive work-related experience in information technology. Must have strong practical knowledge in various programming languages, operating systems and relational databases management particularly in midrange Relational Database Management System (RDMS) environment such as SQL server. Knowledge in windows-based and web-based programming is a must.

Air conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic (1)

Associate's Degree or Vocational School graduate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, servicing, and repairing air conditioning and refrigerating systems in residences and commercial establishments. Must have his/her own reliable transportation and must be able to work flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, **Tuesday, March 7, 2017.**

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Kanoa Resort Saipan

is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

(1) A/C REFRIGERATION MECHANIC / TECHNICIAN

Qualifications: Require post-secondary instruction from technical and trade schools or community colleges that offer programs in air-conditioning and refrigeration and/or associate's degree. Completion of an apprenticeship program or three (3) years of experience. Able to install and repair industrial and commercial refrigeration systems. Perform a wide array of duties, inspect, maintain and troubleshoot centralized A/C cooling tower. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

(8) COOK

Qualifications: High School Diploma, three years actual experience or a combination of two years of education and experience. Basic culinary skills and good hygiene knowledge is essential. Ability to stand for long periods and can lift and carry up to 35 pounds without any assistance. Ability to work a variable schedule on occasion, including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applicants must be submitted not later than March 07, 2017. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN

Invites highly qualified US workers to join our Fiesta Resort and Spa, Saipan Team for the following vacant position:

Guest Relations Agent - Executive Floor

Responsibilities & Duties:

- Meets and greets arriving guests and bids them farewell as they leave the Resort.
- Reviews arrival list daily and assists in preparing and distributing welcome amenities.
- Attends promptly to guests' inquiries and assists them with their needs.
- Handles guest complaints and provides them with solutions to their issues or concerns.

Qualifications/Required Skills:

- High school graduate or equivalent. a few months to one year previous work experience as guest relations agent in a high volume hotel is preferred.
- Language speaking skill in Japanese, Korean or Chinese is advantageous.
- Strong customer service and communication skills are essential.
- Must have good problem solving skills.
- Must be able to multitask and is a team player.
- Knowledgeable of computer applications is required.
- Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, weekends, nights and holidays.
- Must be permissible to serve alcoholic beverages.

Interested applicants may send their resumes to fiesta_hr@fiestasaiapan.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 01, 2017. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER. PLEASE CALL 235-NEWS

Workforce Solutions, Inc. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Management Accountant (2)

College degree with accounting or financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in analyzing, interpreting and providing sound financial information. Must be adept in monthly financial statement preparation and consolidation, cash flow forecasting, budgeting, and providing financial projections. Must have excellent communication, organizational and self-management skills. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft Excel, Power Point and Project. CPA not required.

Building Cleaner (4)

High School Diploma or equivalent. Must have at least 3 years working experience. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Important qualities: detail oriented, responsible. Interpersonal skills. Must get along well with people they provide services for and must be polite and friendly. Physical stamina. Must be able to spend many hours on their feet scrubbing, bending, stooping, and stretching and must be able to lift or move up to 50 pounds. Must be able to work flexible hours and days

Accountant (5)

Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work related experience in financial management and/or payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system and MS Excel, Word and Power Point software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Business Development Manager (1)

Graduate of a 4-year degree course with an Accounting or Financial Management major and at least 5 years of progressive financial and business management experience. Minimum of 3 years general management experience preferably in a financing or banking institution. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills. Must be proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software and Microsoft software. Should possess a solid track record of accomplishing business objectives.

Accounting Manager (1)

College degree with financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage people. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft software.

Accounting Supervisor (1)

A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a focus in accounting and/or finance. 2-3 years of progressive responsibility supervising a minimum of 3 associates. CPA/CPA candidate a plus. Audit experience also preferred. Must have knowledge with the use of SAP R3 FICO System and SAP Fixed Asset Module. Microsoft Office proficiency with advanced knowledge of Excel is a must.

Administrative Assistant (2)

Associate's Degree with 2 years experience of administrative and clerical procedures and systems such as word processing, managing files and records. Must be proficient in typing and good at written and oral communication. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service and interpersonal skills at work. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights. Proficient in MS Office including Word, Excel and Outlook.

Messenger (2)

High school graduate. Must be able to keep track of multiple documents and itemize. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Good oral and written communication skills and good driving skills are required. Must provide and maintain own vehicle for work and have a valid driver's license. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

Administrative Assistant for Sports Facilities (4)

High school diploma or GED Certificate plus experience working in sports organization or sports facilities. Must be computer literate: Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook. Applicant must have good written and oral communication skills. Can work flexible hours and available on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Air conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic (2)

Associate's Degree or Vocational School graduate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, servicing, and repairing air conditioning and refrigerating systems in residences and commercial establishments. Must have his/her own reliable transportation and must be able to work flexible hours.

HR & Administrative Assistant (1)

Associate's Degree. Must have knowledge of principles and procedures for personnel recruitment, selection, benefits and personnel information systems. Ability to work in confidential related matters, self-directed and be able to multi-task in a fast paced environment. With a minimum of 2 years work experience in an administrative role and accounting experience. Proficient in MS Office including Word, Excel and Outlook.

Vice President (1)

Graduate of 4-year degree course with a minimum of 10 years of professional progressive management experience and at least 5 years of general management experience in property management or hotel management, and tourism & cargo business experience for Korean Market. Proficient in English & Korean (reading, writing, speaking). Knowledge of lease negotiations plus financial and quality management is required. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives.

Electrician (1)

High school diploma or GED certificate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, maintaining, and/or repairing electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Must have knowledge of electrical codes, intercom and electrical control systems. Must be able to work flexible hours.

General Maintenance Worker (1)

High school diploma or equivalent with at least 3 years experience especially in equipment and appliance repair. Must have some basic knowledge and troubleshooting experience in plumbing and electrical systems, masonry, carpentry, and other cleaning and general maintenance work inside and outside facilities. Must be able to lift and move heavy supplies and objects. Must be willing to work flexible hours.

Network Administration Manager (1)

Associate's degree in any computer science, information engineering or other computer technology related areas. Must have at least 5 years of sound experience in local and wide area networks management and administration including system configuration, setup, troubleshooting, planning, designing, implementation, and user support. Must have knowledge in MS Exchange Email Server.

Engineering Manager (1)

Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering with at least 5 years of progressive management experience. Ability to successfully develop, implement and manage projects including the ability to provide effective leadership is a must. Adeptness in cost estimation and knowledge of quality control and federal regulations in environmental and occupational safety hazards is required. The duties of this job require constant outside travel and exposure to outside weather conditions. Must be able to provide his/her own transportation and must have a valid driver's license.

Sales Officer (1)

Associate's Degree in Sales or Marketing and at least 3 years work related experience are required. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Must be able to prepare management and sales reports and is proficient in various MS office software operations. Can work flexible hours. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Legal Secretary (2)

Associate's degree and at least 2 years work related experience in a legal office. Proficient in case and document management software, Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Power Point and Outlook. Familiar in preparation and filing of pleadings and legal documents.

Corporate Paralegal Officer (1)

Bachelor's degree in paralegal studies or in any related field. Minimum of 3 years experience providing sound legal research, reliable litigation support and preparation of legal documents, pleadings and contracts. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Familiarity with Lexis - Nexis and Pacer - ECF is required.

IT Manager (1)

College degree with a major in computer science, computer technology or information engineering or other related areas is required. At least 5 years of progressive management experience and 8 years of sound and all-around IT technical experience is required. Must have well-developed written/oral and management skills and with a strong background in all IT hardware, software and communication business requirements.

Computer Technician (1)

Associate's degree in any computer science, information technology or other related areas. Must have at least 3 years of sound experience in electronics and communication systems with emphasis on the repair of computer equipment and installation of telephone cables/systems. Must be knowledgeable in different software applications and in hardware troubleshooting. Must be able to work flexible hours.

Graphic Designer (1)

Associate's degree in Fine Arts, Graphic Design or other related areas. Minimum of 3 years work experience in creating graphics to meet specific commercial or promotional needs. Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign is a must. Strong organizational and self-management skills, including the ability to multi-task and prioritize are required. Can work flexible hours, depending on demand.

Programmer Analyst (1)

Associate's degree in computer science or computer programming and at least 3 years of work-related experience in a professional Microsoft Windows environment. Strong practical knowledge in relational databases management particularly in midrange RDMS environment such as SQL server. Knowledge in windows-based and web-based programming is a must.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, March 9, 2017.

Workforce Solutions, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Accountants (1)

Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Accounting with at least 5 years work-related experience in insurance financial management, payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivable, payable, and payroll management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, GENIISYS and MS Word and Excel software. Payroll accountant must possess experience in electronic processing of timesheets, allotments, and standard and government deductions. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

Accounting Manager (1)

Bachelor's degree in Business Administration major in accounting with a minimum 5 years experience in insurance financial management and possess good management ability. Proficient in MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, SAP R3 FICO system, and the insurance Geniisys program. Must possess good understanding of government and regulatory compliance procedures and requirements, excellent communication skills, as well as experience in interpreting financial reports. Preparation of NAIC Annual & Quarterly Statements, knows how to understand actuarial reports. Auditing experience is an advantage.

General Manager (1)

Bachelor's Degree plus 10 years experience in the insurance business, with at least 5 years experience as a General or Operations Manager position in an insurance company. Must possess experience in managing, technical underwriting, including actual undertaking of risk analysis through risk survey and/or inspections of huge risks. Must have experience in managing reinsurance transactions, with reinsurance brokers and reinsurers which involves undertaking of PML, Catastrophe Modeling, Setting Company Risk Retention. Must also be experienced in managing insurance claims handling including setting up of loss reserves in overseeing Claims Manager functions.

System Analyst (1)

Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science/Technology or Management Information Systems with a minimum 4 years experience in computer systems and programming. Must possess a broad knowledge and experience in computer systems, strong problem-solving and analytical skills, and the ability to think logically. Must have knowledge in Oracle server and programming, and a strong experience in insurance database and program – GENIISYS and an in-depth experience in insurance business operations. Must have good interpersonal and communication skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, March 9, 2017.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Accounting and Circulations Manager (1)

College degree with financial management major and 3 years of progressive financial management and newspaper circulation experience. Minimum of 5 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management and newspaper circulation activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage a work team and independent contractors. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft software. CPA not required.

Associate Editor (1)

Associate's degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any other related course with at least 5 years experience, including newsroom management, story evaluation, and production. Must have strong rewriting, headlining, and proofreading skills and must be able to meet tight deadlines. Preferably with an extensive experience in sports writing.

Circulations Coordinator (1)

Associate's degree with a minimum of 2 years progressively responsible work experience. Requirements include professional customer service and good driving skills. Must be able to routinely lift and move bundles of newspapers up to 50 lbs.

Graphic Designer (3)

Associate's degree in Graphic Design or other related field. Minimum of 3 years work experience doing computer graphics and newspaper layout. Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign is a must. Must be familiar with offset printing process, computer peripherals, and Mac operating system. Strong organizational and self-management skills, including the ability to multi-task and prioritize are required. Can work flexible hours, weekends, and holidays, depending on demand.

Art Director (1)

Assigns and directs staff members to develop design concepts into art layouts or prepare layouts for printing. Formulates basic layout design or presentation approach, and conceives material details, such as style and size of type, photographs, graphics, and arrangement. Reviews and approves art and copy materials developed by staff, and proofs of printed copy. Presents final layouts to client for approval. Writes typography instructions, such as margin widths and type sizes, makes marks up, pastes, and completes layouts and draws custom illustrations for project.

Managing Editor (1)

Associate's degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any related course. At least 8 years progressive journalism and newspaper management experience with a strong story evaluation and production background. Must have rigorous proofreading skills and able to meet tight deadlines. Knows how to use InDesign or Quark Express and must be adept in the various technical aspects of newspaper publishing.

Reporters (2)

Associate's degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any related course; At least 3 years work related experience; Above-average writing skills and a competent grasp of grammar and syntax; With rigorous standards for accuracy and detail; Ability to work within deadlines and in a stressful environment; Knowledgeable in all types of writing, including news and features; With photography skills. Must have own reliable transportation

Sports Reporter (1)

Associate's degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English or any related course; At least 2 years experience in sports writing. Above average writing skills, with strong grasp of grammar and syntax. Must be able to write stories based on score sheets. Can work fast within deadlines and in a stressful environment. Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player. Must be able to work on holidays, weekends, late nights, and on a short notice. Must be computer literate and have photography skills. Must have own reliable transportation.

Accountant (1)

Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work-related experience in general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system and MS Excel, Word and PowerPoint software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at the Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m., Thursday, March 9, 2017.

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Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 17-014 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Laboratory Technician

LOCATION(S): Water & Wastewater Laboratory, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-015 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Assistant

LOCATION(S): Water & Wastewater Engineering, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-016 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Engineering Technician (Construction Inspector)

LOCATION(S): Water & Wastewater Engineering, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-017 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Junior Engineer

LOCATION(S): Water & Wastewater Laboratory, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-018 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Assistant

LOCATION(S): Wastewater Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): Six (6).

JVA No. 17-019 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Direct Responsible Charge

LOCATION(S): Wastewater Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-020 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Assistant

LOCATION(S): Water Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-021 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Technician

LOCATION(S): Water Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): Two (2).

JVA No. 17-022 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Senior Trades Technician

LOCATION(S): Water Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-023 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Foreperson

LOCATION(S): Water Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-024 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Supervisor

LOCATION(S): Water Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-025 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Utility Coordinator (Water System Operations Supervisor)

LOCATION(S): Water Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-026 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Technician: Operator

LOCATION(S): Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): Six (6).

JVA No. 17-027 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Technician: Mechanic

LOCATION(S): Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): Twelve (12).

JVA No. 17-028 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Technician: Electrical

LOCATION(S): Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): Five (5).

JVA No. 17-029 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Technician: Warehouse

LOCATION(S): Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-030 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Foreperson: Mechanic

LOCATION(S): Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-031 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Trades Foreperson: Electrical

LOCATION(S): Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-032 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Safety Compliance Administrator

LOCATION(S): Administration / Safety Office, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-033 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Safety Compliance Technician

LOCATION(S): Administration / Safety Office, Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-034 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Assistant Engineer: Mechanical

LOCATION(S): Rota Power Plant, Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-035 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Assistant Engineer: Electrical

LOCATION(S): Rota Power Plant, Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

JVA No. 17-036 Opening Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Closing Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017

Senior Engineering Technician

LOCATION(S): Water & Wastewater Engineering, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)
POSITION(S): One (1).

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

Bulls benefit as James sits with strep, beat Cavs, 117-99



CLEVELAND (AP)—With LeBron James missing from Quicken Loans Arena, the Cleveland Cavaliers were reminded again just how tough life can be without their star.

James stayed home with strep throat while Dwyane Wade scored 20 points and Jimmy Butler recorded a triple-double, leading the Chicago Bulls to a 117-99 victory Saturday night. Cleveland coach Tyronn Lue said he wasn't sure how long the Cavaliers would be without the four-time MVP. Cleveland struggled as it often does without James - they are 4-19 without him since he returned to Cleveland in 2014, including 0-4 this season.

Forward Tristan Thompson knows opposing teams won't feel sorry for the Cavaliers when James isn't on the court.

"It's a long season," he said. "Guys are going to be out. Guys are going to be hurt. Guys are going to be sick. It's part of the game of basketball. Whether it's LeBron or whoever it might be, we have to be ready to play."

Chicago has won all three games against Cleveland this season. It took advantage of James' absence to win its fourth straight overall.

Wade was 9 of 18 from the field and had 10 assists with eight rebounds. Butler had 18 points, including 13 in the third quarter, to go along with 10 rebounds and 10 assists.

"Of course, I wanted to play against LeBron," said Wade, a longtime friend of James. "But once we knew he wasn't playing, we had to put that to the back of our mind and focus on playing a team with Kyrie Irving."

Irving led Cleveland with 34 points, hitting 13 of 25 from the field. Kyle Korver scored 14 points before limping to the locker room after landing awkwardly on his right leg late in the fourth quarter.

Butler didn't score until hitting a 3-pointer late in the

second quarter. The game was tied nine times and featured 10 lead changes in the first half. The Bulls pulled away from a 65-all tie midway through the third quarter and used an 11-0 run to gain control.

The Cavaliers have lost seven straight without James, dating to March 16 of last season when they beat Dallas.

James remained home for Saturday morning's shoot-around, and Lue announced about 90 minutes before tip-off that he wouldn't play. Lue confirmed James had strep throat after the game. James is averaging 25.7 points per game.

Chicago had seven players in double figures. Rajon Rondo scored 15 points and Nikola Mirotic added 14.

James Jones scored 14 points for the Cavaliers, also playing without the injured Kevin Love and J.R. Smith. It appeared Korver might join the list when he walked gingerly to the locker room, but he said tests after the game showed no structural damage.

"I'm feeling fortunate," he said. "I feel like it could have been a lot worse. It was really scary. I landed kind of short-legged. You've seen a lot of bad injuries when that happens, but I think I'm going to be OK."

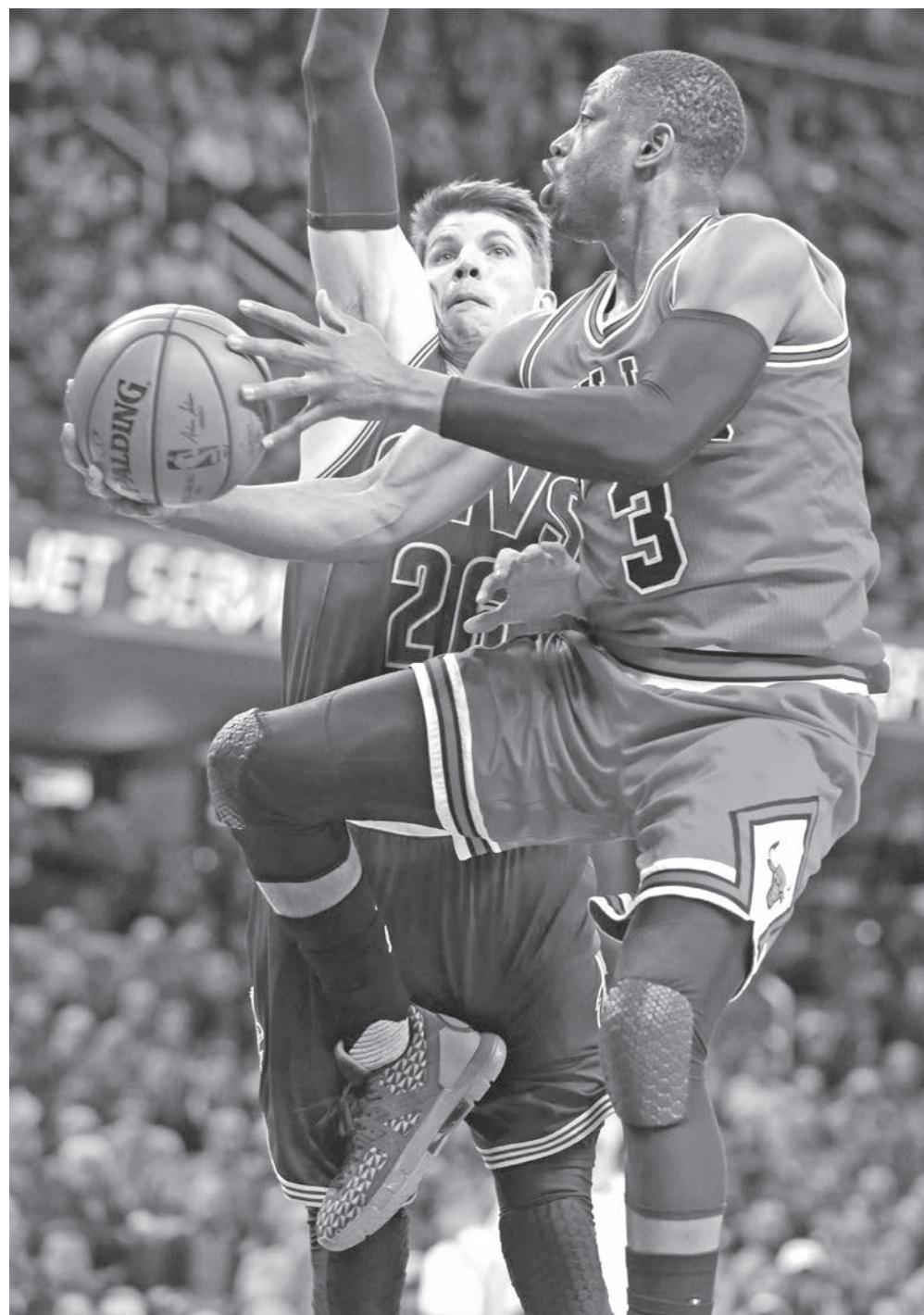
Heat 113, Pacers 95

In Miami, Hassan Whiteside scored 22 points and grabbed 17 rebounds, Dion Waiters added 22 points and red-hot Miami pulled away in the fourth quarter to beat Indiana.

Goran Dragic added 21 points and James Johnson had 15 for Miami, which outscored Indiana 30-16 in the fourth. The Pacers played most of the second half without All-Star forward Paul George, who was ejected after getting two technicals on separate plays early in the third quarter.

Myles Turner scored 18 points and Jeff Teague added 16 for Indiana. George had 10 points in 19 minutes.

It was the 16th win in the



Cleveland Cavaliers' Kyle Korver, left, fouls Chicago Bulls' Dwyane Wade, right, in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017, in Cleveland. AP

The Pelicans fell to 0-2 since trading for DeMarcus Cousins and pairing him with Anthony Davis.

Davis had 39 points and 14 rebounds but scored only 12 in the second half. Cousins finished with 12 points and 15 rebounds.

Seth Curry scored 10 of his 13 in the fourth quarter to help Dallas pull away. His 3-pointer with 4:49 to play gave the Mavericks an 84-72 lead, and the Pelicans never got closer than six after that.

Warriors 112, Nets 95

In Oakland, California, Stephen Curry scored 27 points on a night Kevin Durant missed his first game of the season with a hand injury, and Golden State beat Brooklyn to clinch a playoff berth.

Klay Thompson added 24 points. Curry converted a four-point play just before halftime to put his team up 62-51 at the break. The two-time reigning MVP had five 3-pointers and five assists.

This is just a first step for these star-studded, NBA-best Warriors (49-9): They want the No. 1 seed in the West. Oh, and a championship.

Durant sat out with a bruised left hand. He injured his pinkie in the first quarter of a 123-113 win over the Los Angeles Clippers on Thursday night, and X-rays were negative. He practiced Friday with his left hand heavily taped and still had some discomfort Saturday.

Rondae Hollis-Jefferson scored 16 points in the Nets' 16th straight defeat.

Rockets 142, Timberwolves 130

In Houston, James Harden had 24 points and 10 assists to lead Houston to a victory over Minnesota as both teams set season scoring highs.

Houston won for the sixth time in seven games, handing the Timberwolves their first road loss in more than three weeks.

Minnesota committed a season-high 25 turnovers that led to 38 points for the Rockets.

Playing against Houston's guard-heavy rotation, Minnesota went inside all night and outscored the Rockets 68-44 in the paint. Karl-Anthony Towns had 37 points and 22 rebounds, and Andrew Wiggins added 30 points.

Still, the Timberwolves were ultimately outpaced by the hot-shooting Rockets.

Charles Barkley drops curse word on 'Inside the NBA'

ATLANTA (AP)—Charles Barkley accidentally used a curse word on-air when describing the New York Knicks' play on TNT's "Inside the NBA."

During highlights of the Cavaliers' 119-104 win over New York in Cleveland on Thursday, Barkley used a synonym for excrement in reference to the Knicks.

Host Ernie Johnson im-

mediately chided Barkley, who repeatedly apologized. Fellow analyst Shaquille O'Neal joked that he'd pay any fine from the Federal Communications Commission.

TNT's cameras also caught Barkley's shocked reaction after saying the word. He covered his mouth before laughing off the slip of tongue.

The Knicks then intercepted the 76ers' inbounds pass to hold on and snap their two-game losing streak.

Derrick Rose added 18 points and Justin Holiday had 14 for the Knicks, who won for just the third time in 11 games. They played without starters Kristaps Porzingis (sprained right ankle) and Joakim Noah (sore left hamstring).

Okafor had a season-high 28 points and grabbed 10 rebounds as the 76ers nearly

ended their 17-game losing streak.

Orlando also got double-digit production from Aaron Gordon (18 points) and Elfrid Payton (15). Payton was just short for his fourth career triple-double with nine rebounds and nine assists despite not playing at all in the fourth quarter.

Tim Hardaway Jr. led five Hawks in double figures with 15 points. Atlanta was playing the back-end of a back-to-back and dropped its third straight. The Hawks are trying

to remain in the top five in the Eastern Conference.

Hornets 99, Kings 85

In Sacramento, California, Frank Kaminsky had 23 points and 13 rebounds and Charlotte beat Sacramento to end a five-game losing streak.

The Hornets went ahead late in the first quarter and led the rest of the way for their second win in 14 games. The Kings never got going offensively, and Charlotte led by 23 points in the second half while ending their 12-game road skid.

Marvin Williams scored 16 points and Nicolas Batum had 15 for the Hornets.

Ben McLemore led the Kings with 18 points and Buddy Hield had 15 in his second game since being acquired from New Orleans in a trade for DeMarcus Cousins. Anthony Tolliver and Tyreke Evans had 11 points each.

Mavericks 96, Pelicans 83

In Dallas, Harrison Barnes scored 19 points and Dirk Nowitzki had 18 points and nine rebounds as Dallas ended a three-game losing streak by beating New Orleans.

Catcher Matt Wieters joins Washington Nationals



WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Matt

Wieters finally has a new team. One crazy accident turned his free agency into a harrowing experience.

Wieters cut his left wrist when a five-gallon glass water container broke in his garage on Nov. 1, delaying his off-season preparation—and, he thinks, his chance to find a deal.

“It’s tough finding a team when you can’t do anything baseball-related,” Wieters said Friday, when the catcher took batting practice and ran conditioning sprints at spring training with the Washington Nationals after his signing was announced. “They told me I was very lucky that it wasn’t worse than it was.”

Wieters agreed to a \$21 million, two-year deal worth \$10.5 million annually, one that gives him the right to terminate the agreement after this season and become a free agent again. It includes \$2.5 million each year in deferred salary.

Now Wieters is working on getting up to speed with the pitching staff for the reigning NL East champions. The Nationals’ first exhibition game is Saturday against the New York Mets.

“There’s definitely enough time,” Wieters said. “As a catcher, I’d love to have as much as possible. Being able to listen (to the pitchers) and how they pitch will help me out a lot.”

He joins a crowded clubhouse of catchers. Jose Lobaton and Pedro Severino played in Washington last season, and the club traded for San Diego’s Derek Norris. In all, there are six catchers on the 40-man roster.

General manager Mike Rizzo described Wieters as “a leader in the clubhouse and on the field” for the Baltimore Orioles, the only major league club the four-time All-Star has played for until now.

STICKING AROUND

The Chicago Cubs and reliever Pedro Strop agreed to a contract adding \$6.35 million in guaranteed money through 2018, a deal that includes a club option for 2019.

Strop agreed earlier this month to a \$5.5 million, one-year contract. The new deal calls for a \$5.85 million salary in 2018 and a \$6.25 million club option for 2019 with a \$500,000 buyout. If the option is exercised, he could make \$750,000 in performance bonuses in 2019: \$250,000 each for 45, 50 and 55 games finished.

Strop went 2-2 with a 2.85 ERA in 54 appearances last year, helping Chicago win the World Series for the first time since 1908. Strop, known

In this May 31, 2016 file photo, Matt Wieters, then with the Baltimore Orioles, waits for the pitch as home plate umpire Cory Blaser (89) watches during the third inning of a baseball game as Boston Red Sox’ Travis Shaw (47) bats, in Baltimore.



for wearing his hat off to the side, and ace right-hander Jake Arrieta were acquired in the same July 2013 trade with Baltimore.

AILING

Wilson Herrera has inflammation in his right shoulder and

will not throw for a couple days, taking the Colombian infielder out of the World Baseball Classic and hurting his chances for making the Cincinnati Reds.

Herrera, who turns 23 next Friday, also experienced shoulder soreness for parts

of last season, including during spring training. He said it started bothering him again about a week ago.

The Reds acquired Herrera when they traded Jay Bruce to the New York Mets last summer.

“I’m OK. Sometimes we’ve

got to be strong, get the mind right so we’re ready for everything, so I feel normal,” Herrera said in Goodyear, Arizona.

Reds manager Bryan Price said Herrera probably won’t throw again until Monday or Tuesday.

“He’ll DH tomorrow. He’s

fine to hit,” Price said Friday. “But he’s not OK to defend and throw. Until we have that, his shoulder feeling good coming off the end of last year where he had the soreness, it doesn’t make any sense at all to be playing defense in the WBC or for us.”

Cubs closer Wade Davis reunited with manager Joe Maddon

MESA, Ariz. (AP)—Wade Davis was a promising starting pitcher when he made his major league debut for Joe Maddon and the Tampa Bay Rays almost eight years ago. Then he was a reliever, and then a starter again and then a reliever.

Now he gets the ball from Maddon once again—only this time as the closer for the Chicago Cubs.

Much has changed for Davis over the years, and not much at the same time.

“The only way he’s changed is he is a relief pitcher,” a chuckling Maddon said. “He was a starter when I first met him. He’s the same cat. He’s very deliberate in his methods and even conversationally.”

That’s just fine with Maddon, who is hoping for more of the same from Davis after a dominant run with Kansas City. While the Dodgers, Giants and Yankees spent big money on closers over the winter, the World Series champions acquired Davis in a trade with the Royals for outfielder Jorge Soler.

So far, the transition looks like one of Davis’ relief appearances: smooth and efficient.

“It’s been pretty easy,” said

Davis, who will make \$10 million this season in the final year of his contract. “Everybody’s been really easy to get along with and get to know and the staff has been really good, so it’s been easy to get acclimated to all the stuff.”

Davis, a third-round pick in the 2004 draft, was a starter for his first three seasons in Tampa Bay. The Rays used him as a reliever in 2012, and he went 3-0 with a 2.43 ERA in 54 appearances.

But that was his final year with the Rays, who traded the 6-foot-5 right-hander to Kansas City. The Royals put Davis back in the rotation before returning him to the bullpen late in the 2013 season.

Smart move.

Davis, Kelvin Herrera and Greg Holland combined for an overwhelming relief presence as Kansas City made consecutive World Series appearances, winning it all with Davis on the mound in 2015. Davis went 19-4 with 47 saves and 1.18 ERA over his final three seasons with the Royals.

“He’s got about three plus-plus pitches in his fastball, his cutter and his curveball,” Cleveland second baseman



This is a 2017 file photo showing Chicago Cubs’ Wade Davis. Wade Davis was a promising starting pitcher when he made his major league debut for Joe Maddon and the Tampa Bay Rays almost eight years ago.

Jason Kipnis said. “He’s that guy. And it’s a down angle because he’s coming from a tall slot. He’s a competitor. It’s weird. He’s a great mix between never giving in and coming straight at you. He’s not going to walk you. ... His ability to literally live on the outer black of the plate makes it very hard to get any good swings off him.”

Davis uses his starter’s repertoire to his advantage in the

bullpen. He also gained confidence through his experience in multiple roles.

“I think it helps your mind, knowing that no matter what the situation is, you know, if that’s what you’re asked to do, that’s what you’ve got to do and you’ve done it before,” he said. “So it’s not new to you.”

The 31-year-old Davis went 2-1 with a 1.87 ERA and 27 saves last season, but he

was limited to 43 1/3 innings because of a forearm injury. The Cubs sent one of their trainers to examine him before the trade with the Royals was completed in December. They also signed Koji Uehara to a \$6 million, one-year contract.

With Hector Rondon also in the fold, the Cubs have some options should Davis experience any health issues. But Davis said he feels good.

“Everything has gone really smoothly (in) spring training,” he said. “Bullpens been really good, progressing well, so I think those are all good things.”

Davis came back to pitch for Kansas City in September, going 1-0 with six saves and a 1.04 ERA in his final nine appearances. The Royals also missed the playoffs for the first time since 2013, giving Davis more time to train.

“I think you make adjustments every year,” he said. “Your body changes every year just in general. ... Took advantage of the extra month that I had this winter and got back to where I wanted to be strength-wise and confidence-wise physically, so that’s a big deal.”

United Airlines Guam Marathon announces exciting additions

TUMON, Guam—Guam Sports Events Inc. (GSE), along with title sponsor United Airlines and gold sponsors the Guam Visitors Bureau and Pacific Islands Club, announced at last Thursday's press conference exciting additions to the United Airlines Guam Marathon. Sam Shinohara, United's managing director of Operations Asia/Pacific, and Nathan Denight, president and CEO of the Guam Visitors Bureau, joined GSE managing director Ben Ferguson to discuss event updates and benefits for Guam.

The 5th Annual United Airlines Guam Marathon offers 5K, 10K, Half Marathon and Full Marathon races on April 9. Organizers said \$3 from every registration will go toward the Guam Fire Department, Guam Police Department, Islandwide Beautification Task Force, Tourism Education Council, and USO Guam.

"We are thrilled to support these five event beneficiaries on behalf of participants of the United Airlines Guam Marathon," Ferguson said. "We are working hard to ensure that participants and the community can enjoy and be proud of this event. We want everyone to have a Hafa Adai experi-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Local event ambassadors of the United Airlines Guam Marathon gather after a press conference Feb. 23, 2017. From left: local event ambassador Derek Mandell, spokeswoman Carmela Tyquengco, local event ambassador Rhea Macaluso, local event ambassador Manami Iijima, and local event ambassador Leo Tkel.

ence to remember."

Registered participants can enjoy Eat.Shop.Run., a new runners perks program from April 3 to 16. Runners can redeem special offers at popular restaurants and stores by providing proof of registration.

The running event features three days filled with festivities. On April 7 and 8, the Hafa Adai Expo will serve as the festive location where participants can pick up packets. The expo will be open not only to participants but also to the public. The expo will feature food and beverage concessions, live entertainment, vendors and a running clinic

by Olympic gold medalist and international race ambassador Naoko Takahashi.

Event organizers are bringing back popular traditions, such as the post-race Tumon Bay Dip. After crossing the finish line, runners can take off their shoes and dip their feet into Tumon Bay.

The new post-race BBQ Beach Party will take place at the Gov. Joseph A. Flores Memorial Park (Ypao Beach). Participants and the public can enjoy free food, drinks, and live entertainment.

"The Hafa Adai Expo and BBQ Beach Party are open to local residents because we



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dignitaries and sponsors attend the United Airlines Guam Marathon press conference Feb. 23, 2017. Seated, from left: Masanori Kanasugi, Taico; Greg Kerrebrock, TakeCare; Kimberly Gogue, Tropical Productions; Betty Ann Guerrero, Stations of KUAM; Ben Ferguson, Guam Sports Events Inc.; Paula Monk, United Airlines; Danny Daniel, Docomo Pacific; Nicole Cornelison, Gatorade; Demiella Joya, SPPC. Standing, from left: Yusuke "William" Shinohara, Hilton; Vincent "Ben" Cruz, Sheraton; Sam Shinohara, United; Nathan Denight, Guam Visitors Bureau; Katarina Sgro, GVB; Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio; Dave Silva, Aon; Marie Calvo-Monge, KUAM; Michelle Chaco, Docomo; and Cherry Lopez, SPPC.

appreciate the community's support in hosting an international event of this caliber and scale," Denight said. "The United Airlines Guam Marathon is making strides in boosting tourism, which helps make Guam a better place to live, work and visit."

The United Airlines Guam Marathon, in its fifth year, is organized by Guam Sports Events Inc., a nonprofit organization that hosts annual running and cycling events to

promote Guam's Hafa Adai spirit to grow sports tourism on Guam.

Guam's first IAAF approved marathon race will take place on Sunday, April 9, 2017. Considered Guam's premier running event, the UGM includes 5K, 10K, half marathon (13.1 miles) and marathon (26.2 miles) race distances. All courses have been officially certified by the IAAF (International Association of Athletic Fed-

erations) and AIMS (Association of International Marathons and Distance Races). This designation means that marathon runners may use this as a qualifying event for the Boston Marathon. Complete event details and registration can be found on the official event website at unitedguammarathon.com. The UGM is also sponsored by the Guam Visitors Bureau and the Pacific Islands Club. (PR)

BALL

From Page 28

route to the finals after topping the Blue Dragons, 25-19, 25-18. The Blue Dragons earned the right to face Set It & 4Get It for the second and last finals berth after booting out the Ol'Aces, 25-23, 20-25, 19-17.

Meanwhile, in the women's division finals, the Goal Digi-

gers survived a tough challenge from All Stars 1/2 in the extended first set, 27-25, before completing the sweep in the second, 25-18. Iszel Moralejo Esteves, Shawn Davis, Michelle Masga, Krystel Maluyo, Cecille Guevarra, and R.J. Laguilles played for the champion team.

The Goal Diggers marched into the title game after eliminating Team Lapa, 25-11, 25-16,

sum her training and prepare for the 2017 Junior Fed Cup Asia Oceania Final Qualifying Zone.

The final qualifier will also be held in India in April with Lee and company joining New Zealand, Australia, Sri Lanka, and 12 other countries from Asia in the battle for the three slots to the world competition.

"I'm going back to Fiji to train until the main qualifying comes again in India. There will be a lot more good players there so and I'm excited to play against them," said Lee, who will be playing in the final qualifier for the second straight year.

Meanwhile, in the Junior Davis Cup pre-qualifier, the Philippines won over Singapore, while Lebanon and Vietnam completed the Top 4. The CNMI's Robbie Schorr and his teammates Clement Mainguy of Vanuatu and Jeremy Guines of Tahiti topped their pool (battle for No. 9 to 14 finishers) after prevailing against Tajikistan, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh.

and Swerve Up, 25-14, 25-16. Swerve Up set up a semis showdown against the Goal Diggers following a come-from-behind 18-25, 26-24, 15-7 triumph over That's What She Set. All Stars

STRONG

From Page 28

Saipan's total runs in the first inning, while Jesus Tyquengco and Jequinn Lizama had a two-RBI single and two-RBI double, respectively.

Aguon and company went on to keep its distance against the Twins after collecting nine more runs in the next three innings. Aguon finished with four runs on a 2-for-4 performance at the plate and contributed one RBI, while Jon Reyes and Tyquengco had three RBIs each. Jequinn and Isidro Lizama and Ezra Ada added three runs apiece.

Pirates-2 10, Ol'Aces 0 The Pirates 2 won its season-debut game after shutting down the Ol'Aces in the curtain-raiser.

G-Boy Pangelinan threw a three-hitter to lift the Pirates-2 to victory an inning earlier. He also had 11 strikeouts in a no relief job. With him on the mound and his teammates also holding their ground on defense, the Ol'Aces made it to us far as third base only once.

Kazu Dela Cruz registered three runs and one RBI for the Pirates-2, while Deondry Cruz, D.J. Pangelinan, and J.R. Suel

1/2, on the other hand, made it to the finals after downing Mix Blood, 26-24, 25-7. Mix Blood reached the semis after rallying past Team Tomoko, 27-29, 25-23, 16-14.

chipped in two runs each.

Braves 17, Pirates 1 2

The Braves also cruised to victory in the second game last Saturday.

A 13-run bottom of the first inning set up the Braves' second victory in as many games as they finished off the Pirates 1 after only three and a half innings.

Joel Borja led the Braves' hot start as he went 2-for-2 just in the first inning, scored two runs, and had two RBIs. He had a single in his first trip at bat and made it home on a passed ball, while he drilled a two-RBI double in his second at bat and was driven home by Heath Camacho's single. Four players in the Braves' top of the order reached home plate twice in the first inning for an early double-digit lead, 13-0.

The Braves added four more runs in the second inning to widen the gap before the Pirates 1 ended its silence at the top of the third inning, thanks to Easton Dela Cruz's RBI single. The Pirates 1 got its other run also in the third inning, but the team was done at the top of the fourth when Braves pitcher Angelo Igitol struck out two batters and a Pirates 1 runner was earlier beaten to second base.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	37	21	.638	—	
Toronto	34	24	.586	3	
New York	24	35	.407	13 1/2	
Philadelphia	22	36	.379	15	
Brooklyn	9	49	.155	28	

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	Southwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	44	13	.772	—	
Houston	42	18	.700	3 1/2	
Memphis	34	25	.576	11	
Dallas	23	35	.397	21 1/2	
New Orleans	23	36	.390	22	

Northwest Division

	Northwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	36	22	.621	—	
Oklahoma City	33	25	.569	3	
Denver	26	32	.448	10	
Portland	24	33	.421	11 1/2	
Minnesota	23	36	.390	13 1/2	

Pacific Division

	Pacific Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	49	9	.845	—	
L.A. Clippers	35	23	.603	14	
Sacramento	25	34	.424	24 1/2	
L.A. Lakers	19	40	.322	30 1/2	
Phoenix	18	40	.310	31	

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	Avg
Westbrook, OKC	58	.579	.505	1788	30.8
Thomas, BOS	54	.498	.432	1603	29.7
Harden, HOU	60	.492	.556	1732	28.9
Davis, NOR	55	.563	.384	1537	27.9
Cousins, SAC	55	.505	.423	1528	27.8
DeRozan, TOR	51	.506	.376	1408	27.6
Lillard, POR	52	.439	.333	1344	25.8
Leonard, SAN	52	.446	.345	1340	25.8
Durant, GOL	57	.520	.316	1467	25.7
James, CLE	53	.510	.252	1363	25.7
Curry, GOL	57	.475	.241	1422	24.9
Irving, CLE	51	.466	.202	1255	24.6
Butler, CHI	53	.396	.431	1287	24.3
Towns, MIN	59	.546	.256	1414	24.0
Anthony, NYK	58	.498	.244	1365	23.5
Antetokounmpo, MIL	55	.465	.324	1294	23.5
McCollum, POR	57	.499	.196	1333	23.4
Wiggins, MIN	59	.511	.283	1379	23.4
Wall, WAS	54	.448	.285	1238	22.9
Lowry, TOR	56	.403	.284	1275	22.8

Rebounds

	G	Off	Def	Tot	Avg

<tbl

2017 White Coconut Tennis Classic

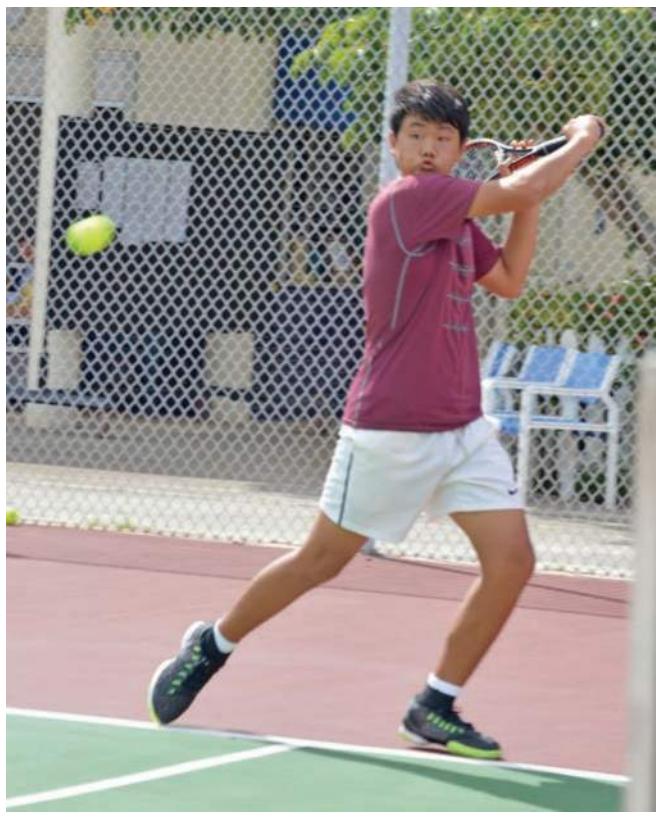
PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



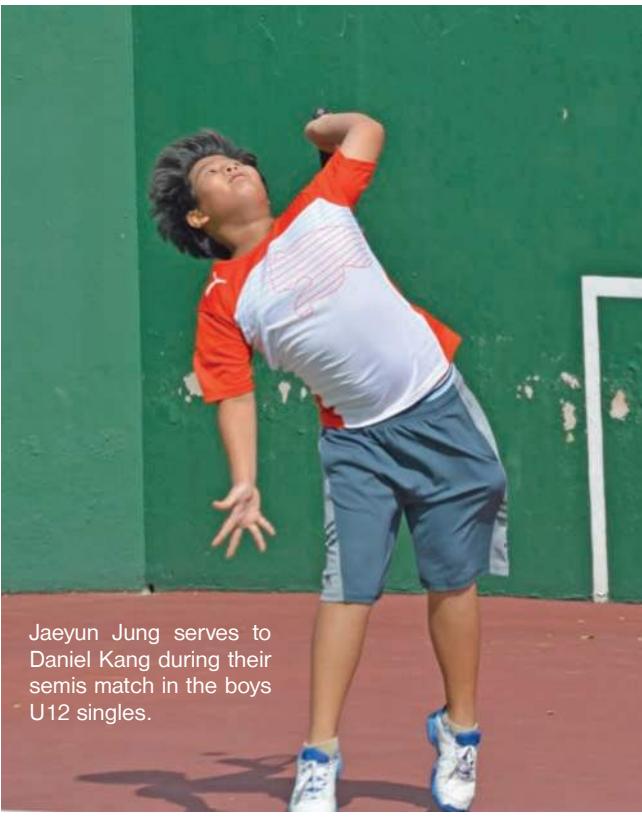
Tania Tan stretches for a backhand return to Malika Miyawaki during their women's open singles match in the 2017 White Coconut Tennis Classic held this month at the Pacific Islands Club courts.



Malika Miyawaki goes for a baseline return to Tania Tan.



Tony Kim makes a backhand return to Bobby Cruz during their semis match in the men's open singles.



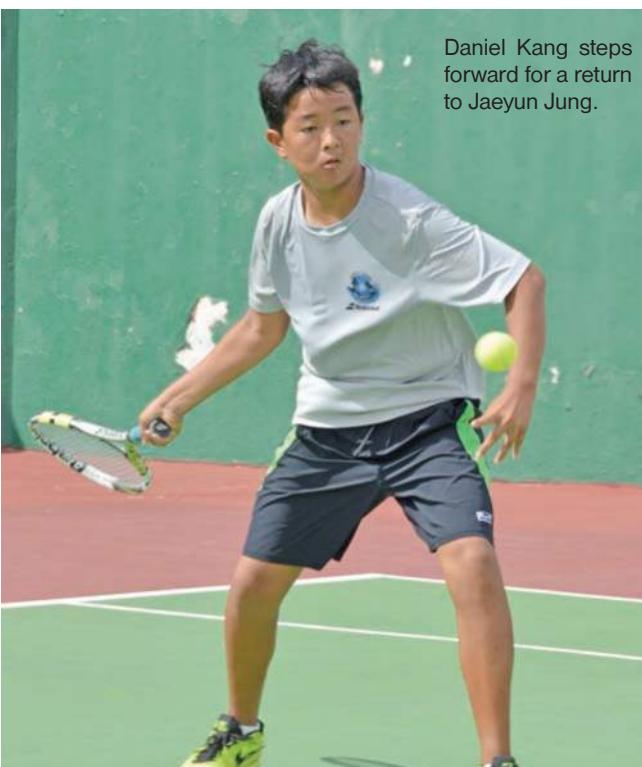
Jaeyun Jung serves to Daniel Kang during their semis match in the boys U12 singles.



Bobby Cruz has his eyes on the ball during the second set of his semis game against Tony Kim in the men's open singles.



Ken Songs returns to Vince Tudela during their boys U16 singles match.



Daniel Kang steps forward for a return to Jaeyun Jung.



J.C. Ferrer gets ready to serve to Anika Camacho during their girls U12 singles game.



Bulls benefit as James sits with strep, beat Cavs, 117-99

PAGE 24

28 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017

Saipan Tribune Sports

Wieters joins Nationals; Judge hits long homer for Yankees

PAGE 25



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Lee powers Pacific Oceania to title win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee showed poise in her toughest singles match in the 2017 Junior Fed Cup Asia Oceania Pre-Qualifying Zone to lift Pacific Oceania to the title win against Sri Lanka last Saturday at the R.K Khanna Tennis Stadium in New Delhi, India.

Lee eked out a 7-6 (5) victory over Anika Seneviratne in the first set of Singles 1 play and the Commonwealth play-

er rode on the momentum of her close win in the second to ease past her Sri Lankan opponent, 6-2. Lee's triumph sealed

Strong start lifts Bank of Saipan past Twins



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Bank of Saipan pitcher throws from the mound during the bottom of the fifth inning of their game against the Twins in the Major division of the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Bank of Saipan gained enough cushion in the first inning en route to a 22-17 victory over the Twins in their Major division game in the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield. Versus the Twins, Aguon scored two of Bank of

opening inning to take early control of the match and hung in there to get its second win in as many game. Bank of Saipan posted its first victory during the opening week of the league against the Pirates 1, 9-8, off Anton Aguon's RBI single at the bottom of the sixth and last inning.

Bank of Saipan scored 10 runs at the top of the

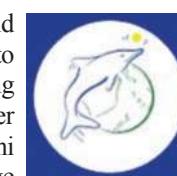


CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Carol Lee, seen here competing in a Juniors ITF tournament last year, lifted Pacific Oceania to the title win against Sri Lanka in the 2017 Junior Fed Cup Asia Oceania Pre-Qualifying Zone last Saturday at the R.K Khanna Tennis Stadium in New Delhi, India.

the deal for Pacific Oceania, as Tahiti's Naia Guitton earlier posted a similar hard-earned win over Savini Jayasuriya in the Singles 2 match, 7-5, 6-3. Had the 15-year-old Lee dropped her singles game,

she and Guitton would have been forced to play in the deciding doubles match over Seneviratne and Sathi Siyara Silva Mirissage just a few hours after the sec-



ond singles tiff.

The match against Seneviratne was Lee's longest as it finished after nearly two hours (1:42). It was also Lee's first singles match

that went over an hour and the Sri Lankan top singles player was the first to score three points against the CNMI bet.

Lee, in pool play, shut down

See LEE on Page 26

Ball Crushers, Goal Diggers rule v-ball tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The Ball Crushers and Goal Diggers recorded contrasting wins to top their respective divisions in the 2017 VolleyTime Tournament held last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Ball Crushers reigned supreme in the men's division after slipping past Set It & 4Get It in a three-set title game last Friday. Set It & 4Get It stunned the then unbeaten Ball Crushers in the opening set of the winner-take-all finale, 25-22, to boost its chances for an upset. However, the Ball Crushers, who had Jonas Barcenas, John Nekaifes, Riel Mercado, Alfredo Gueverra, Macoi Aguda, Bryan Valenton, Jeff Riman, and John Legacion in its roster, regrouped in the second set and

earned a 25-18 victory to extend the championship game.

In the deciding third set, the opposing teams went back and forth before the Ball Crushers gained the advantage in the late stage and escaped the upset axe of Set It & 4Get It with a 15-11 triumph.

The title win was Ball Crushers' fourth victory in the single-elimination tournament. The eventual champion swept Pool A, beating the Blue Dragons, Set It & 4Get It, and Danny's Bad Boyz to advance to the semifinals.

In the Final Four, the Ball Crushers needed only two sets to knock off the Aces, 25-16, 25-21. The Aces moved into

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
John Nekaifes bumps the ball, while teammate Alfredo Gueverra looks on during their elimination round game against Set It & 4Get It in the 2017 VolleyTime Tournament last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

the semifinals following a 25-23, 18-25, 15-13 triumph against Have Mercy in the first round of the playoffs.



In the other semis pairing, Set It & 4Get It also took the short

See BALL on Page 26